GENERAL INFORMATION

room

FOR NOVEMBER: WINTERIZE YOUR GARDEN · MAKE A HOUSE PLANT HAVEN

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DETROIT

Flower Grower

NOVEMBER 1953 25 CENTS BOUGHT, READ, LOVED BY 270,000 GARDENING FAMILIES

FAST BLOOMING BULBS and PLANTS
For Your Indoor Garden

Large, Heavy Foliaged
Rare **CLIVIA** *Plants*

Evergreen, year-round House Plants of exquisite beauty

Imported from Europe, these 4-year old Clivia plants are fully developed with an abundance of glossy, dark green, gracefully arching foliage. The *evergreen* foliage makes them a permanently attractive and decorative house plant *all year round!* The flower buds, rising from the plant in January or February, develop into a giant umbel of unusually beautiful flowers. ABSOLUTELY FOOL-PROOF! Will grow in any home, requiring little light or water. Order now as supply of this rare strain is limited. *Makes ideal gifts.*

$4.25 each 3 for $11.50 POSTPAID

Enjoy LILIES-OF-THE-VALLEY all winter long!

Imagine exquisite, heavenly fragrant Lilies-of-the-Valley blooming in your home during the winter months! These specially prepared imported pips bloom in 3 weeks. *Easy to grow!* Just plant in potting moss supplied, and keep watered. For uninterrupted blooms, plant at regular intervals. We will ship every two weeks or month from October to April in units of 10 or 25 pips at your specified shipping dates. *Perfect gifts!*

Unit of 10, **$2.10** – 4 Units of 10, **$7.90**

Unit of 25, **$4.75** – 4 Units of 25, **$17.75**

Amazing Christmas-time
AMARYLLIS
BLOOMS IN ONLY 6 TO 8 WEEKS

Imagine Amaryllis in bloom *months* before their regular blooming time! Most Amaryllis do not bloom until March. These *specially treated* bulbs bloom in *only a few weeks* after potting! Produces immense flowers of vivid red or pure white, often four to each stem. Frequently, a second stem appears after the first has finished blooming! *Grows so fast, you can almost see it growing!* Pot in November for holiday blooms. Makes a rare and unusual gift.

Cut open view shows live flower-bud formed early in October due to exclusive Stassen treatment applied in Holland during summer. Enables bulbs to bloom only 6 to 8 weeks after potting.

VIVID DEEP RED $3.75 each
3 for $10.00 10 for $29.50 POSTPAID

PUREST WHITE $4.00 each
3 for $10.70 10 for $31.50 POSTPAID

Novelty GLOXINIAS

Flown in direct from Belgium

Get an early start with your Gloxinias by planting them in November! These freshly harvested tubers produce better (and faster) results! These NEW HYBRIDS include solid colored, striped, and speckled varieties. Large flowers, very free-blooming.

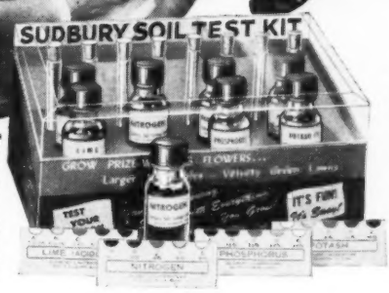
3 for $1.35 10 for $4.00

STASSEN FLORAL GARDENS INC. DEPT. 17, Roslyn Heights, N. Y.

The GIFT Every Gardener Wants Most for Christmas

More than anything else, receiving a Sudbury Soil Test Kit will delight everyone on your gift list who has a garden or house plants. Both amateur and expert gardeners get more enjoyment and satisfaction from their hobby than ever before. They'll depend on it for a better garden all the rest of their life—every season will remind them of your thoughtfulness.

$5.89



POPULAR GARDEN KIT

Handsome case with clear lucite cover. Especially designed for the small garden, complete in every way. Makes over 50 tests for nitrogen, phosphorus, potash and lime (pH). Simple directions and charts showing needs of 125 different flowers, vegetables, fruits, etc. **Only $5.89!**

The Gift that Makes Gardens Grow

This simple, dependable, so easy to use Soil Test Kit guarantees every gardener bigger and better flowers than ever before—even surpassing the glowing pictures in the seed catalogs. It means prize-winning vegetables gardeners love to brag about—bigger, earlier, vitamin-rich, delicious—and in greater abundance. Shrubs and trees will be greener, more beautiful—the lawn lush and velvety green all season long. It even helps house plants grow better, bloom profusely.

HORTICULTURAL SOIL TEST KIT

The ideal gift for those whose garden is their hobby. This handsome Kit, in rugged steel chest, will give a lifetime of service. Has carrying handle, weighs only 9½ lbs., can be taken to any part of the garden. Full instructions and charts for 225 different flowers, vegetables, fruits, lawns. A favorite with better gardeners everywhere.

Makes over 150 tests. Has four times as much testing solutions, more and larger equipment. Owners everywhere say it's more valuable than all their gardening tools put together.

There's no finer gift for Mother, Dad, or a cherished relative or friend.

Big value, low cost, now only $14.95.

Easy as Reading a Thermometer

Takes the Guesswork Out of Gardening

A **Sudbury Soil Test Kit** tells in 10 minutes just what's wrong with the soil and how to correct it. These easy tests keep gardeners from using the wrong kinds of fertilizer—or too much, which can do more harm than good. Also shows whether lime is needed (pH) and the right amount. Costs less than 10c a test.

SUPER deLUXE KIT

For those to whom you want to give the best—the one being admired in picture above. Just as easy to use, more complete equipment, makes hundreds of tests. Charts show needs of 225 different flowers, vegetables, etc. Streamline, welded steel chest, weighs only 12½ lbs. Even florists, nurserymen and farmers depend on it. Most economical to use.

Only $29.95.

No Knowledge of Chemistry Needed

Even their first tests will be accurate and reliable. Soil can be tested anytime, anywhere—kitchen, cellar, garage, or right outdoors.

It's first aid for the amateur, and the expert's constant guide to prize-winning blooms—tells more about the soil than a lifetime of gardening.

All **Sudbury Soil Test Kit** owners have a "green thumb"—they can't make a mistake. Their gardens are the envy of the entire neighborhood.

Equally appropriate for birthdays, anniversaries, etc.

We'll Gift-Wrap and Mail FREE!

If you wish, just send a list of names and addresses to whom you want us to send Soil Test Kits—then we'll gift wrap and mail postpaid direct to them, enclosing a gift card bearing your name.

Order now! Do your shopping early, and avoid the holiday mail delays.

SEND NO MONEY

Orders Mailed Same Day Received

Use Order Blank below, right away—when your Kits arrive you'll be so pleased you'll want to order more before Christmas. Delivery before Dec. 25th guaranteed on all orders received through Dec. 19.

Order C.O.D. plus postage (or send check and we'll mail postpaid, saving you 50¢ to $2.93 in postal charges).

SUDBURY SOIL TEST KIT

SUDBURY LABORATORY, Box 79, South Sudbury, Mass.

World's Largest Makers — Over 400,000 Now in Use

STORES: Serve your customers by having these unique gifts in stock for Christmas shoppers, and for all-year demand. Write for special offer.

SUDBURY LABORATORY, Box 79, South Sudbury, Mass.

Send me the Sudbury Soil Test Kits ordered by return mail:

.....**Popular Garden Kits @ $5.89 each**

.....**Horticultural Kits @ $14.95 each**

.....**Super deLuxe Kits @ $29.95 each**

☐ Enclosed is $..... Send postpaid. ☐ Send C.O.D. plus postage.

Name.....

St. or R. D.....

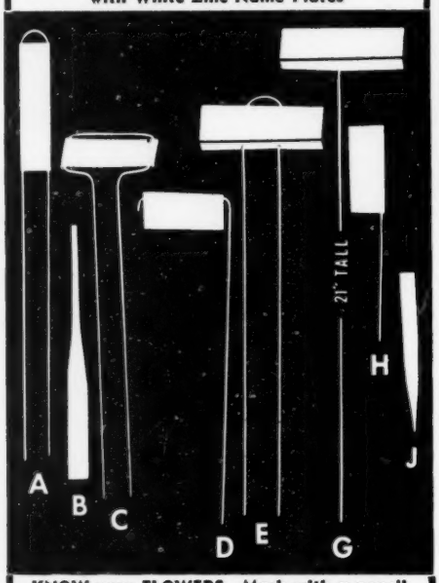
City..... Zone..... State.....

☐ **Attached is list of names and addresses to whom please send Sudbury Kits direct with Christmas Card bearing my name.**

Galvanized Steel

GARDEN MARKERS

with White Zinc Name Plates



KNOW your FLOWERS. Mark with a pencil. Names stay on. Enjoy your garden more.
ORDER NOW WHILE AVAILABLE

8 DIFFERENT STYLES

Prepaid: Add 10% west of the Rocky Mts.

A—12 INCH HAIR PIN TYPE

3-inch lock-rim. Name Plate which can be replaced in a jiffy. Look neat in the garden, nice for Iris and Roses.

20 for $1.00; 100 for $3.80
Extra lock-rim name plates 100 for $1.50

B—7 INCH LABELS WHITE ZINC

Permanently mark trees, shrubs and plants. Pencil marks stay through rain and snow.

Prepaid 25 for 40¢; 100 for $1.00
500 for $4.00

C—GARDEN MARKER

9 inch steel wire standards and shielded WHITE-ZINC NAME PLATE which may be marked on both sides. You will like this improved marker.

Prepaid 18 for $1.00; 100 for $4.00
Extra Zinc Plates Without Wire
100 for $1.25

D—9" SWINGING LABEL

1 x 2½" Zinc Name Tab secured to 9 inch STEEL Standard, adjustable, nice for tulips.

25 for $1.00; 100 for $2.80
Replacement Tags 100 for $1.20
Special Weatherproof Pencil 10¢

E—11½" OK ROSE MARKER

Name plate has wide flanges with four accurately spaced holes thru which stiff STEEL standards freely slide up over the tilt into secure position. A new plate can be put on easily. The price is a little higher for this better marker but worth it.

15 for $1; 100 for $5.00
Name Plates Without Wire; 100 for $2.50
Gardens

G—21" TALL for home garden easy to read

Same name plate as OK ROSE (Replaceable). Single Wire Staff. For Tulips, Glads, Iris, Day Lilies, Tea Roses, showing well above foliage, no samples.

Prepaid 25 for $1.50; 100 for $5.50
Name Plates 100 for $2.25

H—8" POT LABEL for Rock Gardens

USEFUL IN THE GREENHOUSE

"Handy as a pocket in a shirt." Penciled names defy moisture, heat and weather. Neat, Modest and Durable. Strong Steel wire sticker. White Zinc name plate. Low cost permits generous use.

Prepaid 30 for $1; 100 for $2.50
Extra names plates not available

J—4" VIOLET LABEL

Made for African Violets and other small house plants. Useful to the hybridizers for labeling cuttings. Pointed WHITE ZINC strip 7/16x4".

100, 80¢ 1000, $5

TRIAL KIT To acquaint new customers with our markers and labels we prepay Three each of A, C, D, E, H, J and 25B together with a weatherproof pencil all for $1.00.

EVERLASTING LABEL CO.
Box 93, PAW PAW, MICH.

Flower Grower

November 1953 **Vol. 40, No. 10**

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COMING IN DECEMBER FLOWER GROWER

■ Next month we'll show you how to take the scramble out of spring gardening with advance planning. There'll be separate articles on six climatic zones.

■ For book lovers, a review and preview. The review will give the best garden books of the past 5 years. The preview, the books you'll be buying in 1954.

■ Do you want a no less than inspired centerpiece for your Christmas table? Then read the delightful photo feature on holly-time arrangements in December.

■ And speaking of holly, that cheering symbol of the Yuletide will come in for a three-dimensional scrutiny: its value in the garden, house and to plant collectors.

■ Just getting started in greenhouse gardening? A fact-packed article in December will tell you the most accommodating plants to begin with—and describe new subjects for the veteran.

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Circulation and Production Offices: 99 N. Broadway, Albany 1, N. Y.
Editorial and Advertising Offices: 2049 Grand Central Terminal, New York 17, N. Y.

Advertising Representatives
Midwest: Cole & Mason, 605 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago 11, Illinois
West Coast: Conway & Klaner { 1127 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 17, Calif. / 244 California St., San Francisco 4, Calif. / Terminal Sales Building, Portland 5, Oregon

AUDITED PAID CIRCULATION ABC

Address all communications about Subscriptions to Circulation Manager, Flower Grower, Albany 1, N. Y. When changing your address report direct to Flower Grower, Albany 1, New York, rather than through your local post office, giving both your old and new address, and allow four to five weeks for the first copy to reach you at the new address.

Published monthly by Williams Press, Inc., 99-129 North Broadway, Albany, N. Y. Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Albany, N. Y., September 21, 1932 under act of March 3, 1879. Subscription price: U. S., Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, $3.00 per year, 2 years, $5.00. Other foreign countries $5.00 per year.

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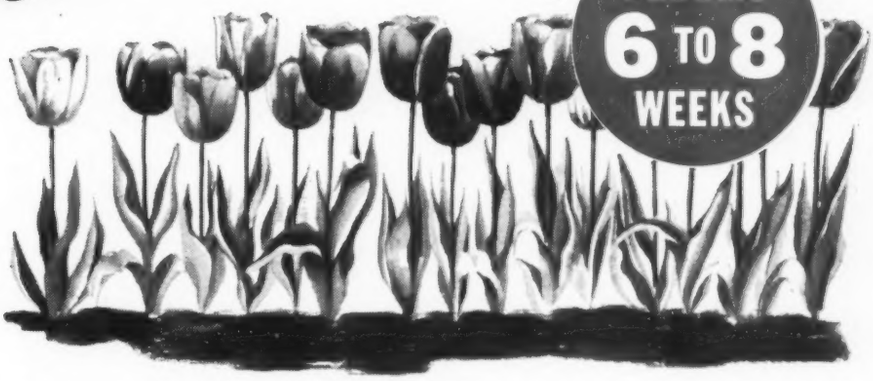
MAKE YOUR GARDEN A SHOWPLACE

with Spectacular MULTI-COLOR TULIP BED

BLOOMS 6 TO 8 WEEKS



Look! ONLY

Amazing Rainbow Collection $3.50

50 QUALITY BULBS

10 VERY EARLY—10 EARLY—10 MID-SEASON 10 LATE—10 VERY LATE

Group 1 contains early flowering Botanical tulips in a wide assortment of shapes, sizes—most of them low growing, ideally suited to rock gardens; effective in borders along garden paths. These species do not have to be lifted—can remain in ground indefinitely—multiply freely. Most of colors are vivid, many having contrasting color combinations, such as yellow with red stripes, and black centers. Some star-shaped, some with rounded petals, while others resemble water lilies. Unusual and exciting. Start blooming in *March*.

Group 2—a mixture of single and double tulips which commence to bloom in *April*. Resistant to harsh spring winds and rains. Bold hues. Stems 10" to 14" long.

Group 3—a splendid collection of Triumph tulips which start to bloom in late *April*. Many are bi-color. Flowers are large, and are borne on sturdy stems 20" to 24" high.

Group 4—a mixture of gay Darwins, flowering in early *May*. Intense colors, large flowers, some cup-shaped, some globular, others elongated. A wide color range from pale, soft tones to bright. Grow up to 30" tall.

Group 5 contains latest flowering varieties — Cottage and Breeder tulips averaging 26" to 34" in height. Very large and striking flowers. Pastel and dark tones in solid hues and charming color combinations. An abundance of flowers that bloom until very late.

Enjoy breath-taking splendor from *late March 'til mid-May* with flowers of unmatched beauty. Enchanting assortment of lovely, majestic tulips, with blooming dates spaced for a long, continuous parade of exciting colors lasting up to 2 months. Think of it! Up to 8 weeks of Fairyland blooms, in exotic pastel shades, variegated colors and bright, vivid hues—new flower surprises morning after morning . . . dainty miniatures and bold giants. Each group labeled separately according to blooming season, so you may plant in best locations.

Now, *for the first time*, you may obtain in one package, a deluxe collection of superb tulips chosen for your pleasure by flower specialists, and sorted by varieties to provide an extra-long blooming season. Do not confuse these large, government-inspected, disease-free Holland bulbs with culls and seconds sometimes offered as a "bargain." For *84 years*, Kellogg's has been recognized as a reliable source of supply by thousands of gardeners. This astonishing collection contains only healthy, high grade bulbs from famous tulip fields in Holland.

RARE RAINBOW COLLECTION

Contains 10 bulbs each of 5 *different* imported varieties . . . hand picked and sorted for best blooming sizes . . . carefully selected to provide an ever-dazzling display of exquisite blooms, including your favorite colors, as well as many new, unusual ones. There are enough bulbs in this assortment for 25 ft. of sparkling tulip border or for a good sized bed of glorious blooms. There is nothing prettier than charming tulips artistically arranged in beds or borders, next to the house or along walks and driveways.

Extra quantities of this fine collection of bulbs, each averaging 10 to 12 cm. around, are available at a special saving. If any bulb should fail to thrive and bloom we will replace it free of charge. We pay postage on prepaid orders. Transportation and postal collection fee extra on C. O. D. shipments. All orders expertly wrapped for safe delivery. Because the supply is limited, all orders will be filled on a *first come, first served* basis. See coupon below for prices and complete information. Act quickly.

ORDER NOW FOR FALL PLANTING!

Free!

Kellogg's, big, new, full-color catalog, FAMOUS FLOWERS AND FRUIT.

A beautiful book, a valuable guide. Shows many exciting garden novelties of rare charm, in actual colors.

Describes many flowers that you will surely want, to brighten your yard next spring. Shows a profusion of *rare and graceful tulips, dainty, bell-shaped Scilla, Grape Hyacinths, delightful Crocuses, Snow Drops and Daffodils.* Tells all about the many rare varieties of *exclusive, multi-flowered Azaleamums* which form a blanket of color from August 'til heavy frost . . . hundreds of blooms on a single plant. You will have fun making your selections from this beautiful, *free* book. ORDER IT NOW!

R. M. KELLOGG CO., DEPT. 1108, THREE RIVERS, MICH. (AZALEAMUM CITY)

MAIL THIS NO-RISK COUPON TODAY!

Please send me at once spectacular Tulip Bed Collection of imported quality bulbs as checked below. It is understood that these are guaranteed to bloom satisfactorily.

- ☐ Rainbow Collection of 50 bulbs, containing 10 each of 5 different varieties, at $3.50.
- ☐ Rainbow Collection of 100 bulbs, containing 20 each of 5 different varieties, at $5.95 (you save $1.05).
- ☐ Check here for prepaid shipment. (Enclose payment with order and we pay all postage. Otherwise, we will send C.O.D. with delivery costs added.)
- ☐ Send new fall catalog free.

NAME_____
(Please print in pencil)

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ ZONE_____ STATE_____

Kellogg's FAMOUS FOR QUALITY SINCE 1869

Something in the touch of Fall

Perhaps an ancient sense stirs in us all, when the leaves fall, that makes us think of safe-guarding what we love against the bite of winter. Your precious trees will withstand the strain of ice and wind better, if they are given care now. Roots continue to be active after the leaves have fallen, so Fall is a good time to fertilize.

While your grounds are not in use, you can conveniently have a Davey man brace and cable weak limbs and V-forks that might split under the weight of winter. Damage left from summer storms, from drought or insect attack, should be repaired now, too.

Davey Tree Experts are the most thoroughly trained and well equipped tree-saving men in the world. They can give your trees the complete care they deserve, fast and economically. And if you would like a mature tree transplanted to complete your view, Davey can do that, too. Fall is an excellent time.

DAVEY

Tree Expert Company

KENT 4, OHIO

THE OLDEST AND LARGEST TREE SAVING SERVICE IN THE WORLD

MARTIN L. DAVEY, Jr., PRESIDENT

Readers' Own Corner

American Rose Society

Dear Editor:

I liked the article about the American Rose Society very much. But contrary to popular opinion, Dr. McFarland was not one of the founders of the Society. Mr. Pyle interested him in becoming editor in 1915, and he edited the first Rose Annual in 1916. Neither has the Society lived most of its life in Harrisburg. It is now 54 years old and came to Harrisburg in 1932. I worked for the Society part time when it first moved to Harrisburg.

I find the articles in your magazine very helpful when I prepare my talks as Chairman of Horticulture for the Harrisburg Garden Club.—MARGARET R. SNYDER, Director of Breeze Hill Gardens, Harrisburg, Pa.

Top Lawn Article

Dear Editor:

Congratulations to Dr. F. L. Wynd on his highly provocative article about the care and culture of fine lawns in the September FLOWER GROWER. I am a "lawnscapist" and am deeply interested in this particular phase of landscaping. —ROBERT L. JORDON, New York, N. Y.

Annuals in Windows

Dear Editor:

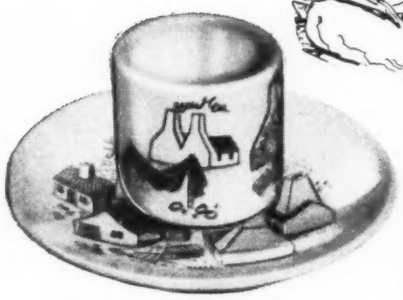
Regarding your August article on growing annuals in windows, I'd like to report that this does not work in northern latitudes. Both photoperiod and light intensities are too low. Petunias in a south window will grow 4 feet and not bloom until the middle of February.

The author of the article lives in New Mexico, where it may work O.K., but many of your readers live where winter weather is dark. They will be as disappointed as I was when I tried it.—AL BOWERS, Chicago, Ill.

[Plants lifted from the garden in fall with flower buds already formed have bloomed for me all winter indoors in New Jersey. Perhaps new buds will not form during winter but those which have formed under ideal garden conditions will develop and flower indoors with proper care, and if kept in a cool 60° to 65° temperature will open so slowly that bloom lasts all winter.—ED.]

• For information on
Flower Grower Round Robins
write Mrs. Mabel E. Wickman, director
1014 Churchill Avenue, Utica 4, N. Y.

WHICH ONE OF THESE *Around the World* GIFTS DO YOU WANT— WITHOUT CHARGE!



From Denmark

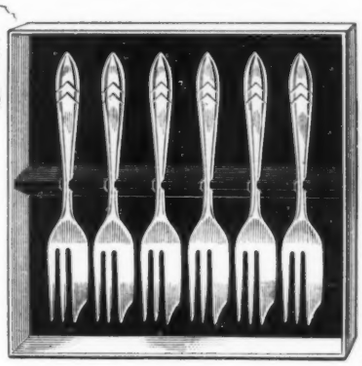
Denmark's most prominent black-and-white illustrator created this delightful scene for this ceramic set, especially for members of the Around-the-World Shoppers Club. Each piece is signed by the artist himself and the set is fast becoming a real collector's item.

From France

Where but in Paris would one find such an enchanting *frivolité* for milady as this dainty perfume flacon! We discovered it in a small studio in the city . . . a perfect little thing of etched metal and gleaming blown glass—with its own tiny metal funnel for transferring your scents. It is purse-sized for handy carrying, yet it also makes the most adorable ornament for the vanity table.

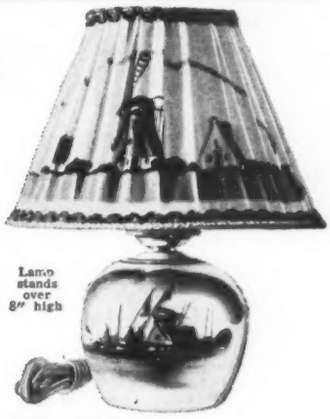
From England

This exquisite 6-piece setting of silver-plated English pastry forks was forged in the ancient city of Sheffield, a name that meant fine cutlery before Columbus sailed for America! An honored Sheffield firm made up this exclusive design at our request for Around-the-World Shoppers Club members.



From Holland

In our search for fine *Delft's Blue* articles, we went right to the source—Holland—and found this beautiful twilight Dutch lamp. How they get the shimmering blue and white effect in both the base and the shade is a closely-guarded trade secret; all we know is that it is hand-made, hand-painted and utterly charming!



Lamp stands over 8" high

TO INTRODUCE YOU TO THE PLEASURES OF BEING A MEMBER OF THE

Around-the-World Shoppers Club

Wouldn't you like to go shopping around the globe with a traveller who knows where the *finest merchandise* and *biggest bargains* are? Wouldn't you like to visit distant lands, shop for exquisite gifts in exotic bazaars, go through fantastic Old World workshops, watch native craftsmen create beautiful things with their ancient skills? Best of all—wouldn't you like to make your home a "show place" with the exciting gifts you've purchased—*for just $2.00 each?*

A Thrilling Surprise Each Month

To introduce you to the thrills and enjoyment of shopping abroad, let us send you a beautiful gift from a foreign land without charge! Then, as a member of the Around-the-World Shoppers Club, each month you will receive a surprise package sent to you direct from the country of origin — and with it will come a colorful brochure telling all about your gift!

When you actually see the articles you receive for just $2.00 each, you'll wonder how the Club can offer such tremendous bargains even from abroad! The secret, of course, is that foreign nations need U. S. dollars to support native industry, and offer the Club unheard-of values in exchange. Members thus benefit and help improve world conditions at the same time.

Join Today by Mailing the Coupon

So—come aboard our magic carpet and let's set out on our shopping trip! When your gift packages begin arriving, covered with fascinating stamps from distant lands, you'll be delighted you joined the Club! However, if you become displeased in any way, simply resign membership and your unused payment will be refunded. Furthermore, if you are not delighted with your first selection, keep both the selection and your bonus gift and receive a full refund!

NOTE: Our supply of the specially selected gifts offered here is limited; may we urge you to mail the coupon today to make sure you will receive the gift article you have chosen?

GIVE A GIFT TO SOMEONE SPECIAL!

What gift could be more intriguing than an Around-the-World Shoppers Club membership? Gifts are so precious! Friends are reminded of your kindness month after month!

Around-the-World Shoppers Club, Dept. H
71 Concord St., Newark 5, N. J.

☐ No. 253 Ceramic Set ☐ No. 255 Pastry Fork Setting
☐ No. 254 Perfume Flacon ☐ No. 256 Twilight Lamp

Please enroll me as a Member and send me the Gift I have checked above *without charge*. Also start regular monthly shipments of the Club's selection of foreign merchandise, to be shipped direct to me from countries of origin and to continue through the following term of membership:

☐ 3 Months.....$ 6.00
☐ 6 Months..... 11.50
☐ 12 Months..... 22.00

I enclose remittance for .....

Name .....

Address .....

City & Zone.....State.....

(NOTE: The U. S. Post Office Dept. charges a service fee of 15c for delivering foreign packages, which is collected by your postman and cannot be prepaid.)

(Please use additional sheet for gift subscriptions)

References: Franklin-Washington Trust Co., Newark 2, N. J.

AROUND-THE-WORLD SHOPPERS CLUB 71 CONCORD STREET NEWARK 5, N. J.

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New Thrive

Feed your plants with ease

LIQUID HOUSE PLANT FOOD IN THE NEW HANDY PLASTIC SQUEEZE BOTTLE

An easy way to give plants ALL the nutrients they need for healthy growth. Ready to use . . . no mixing . . . no diluting . . . NO SPRAY GUN TO BUY!

THRIVE contains balanced plant food formula PLUS Soil Conditioner and all minor elements.

AMAZING RESULTS GUARANTEED in 14 days or your MONEY REFUNDED! No risk! After using New THRIVE ONLY 14 days you must be thrilled by new and healthier growth, more and larger blooms – or YOUR MONEY BACK! Remember, your handy plastic squeeze bottle of THRIVE can be refilled from quarts or gallons. Ideal for lawns, flowers, etc.

DON'T DELAY — RUSH YOUR ORDER TODAY!

THREE SIZES

4 ounces plastic squeeze bottle	$ .59
1 quart can	$1.49
1 gallon can	$4.95

All prices postpaid

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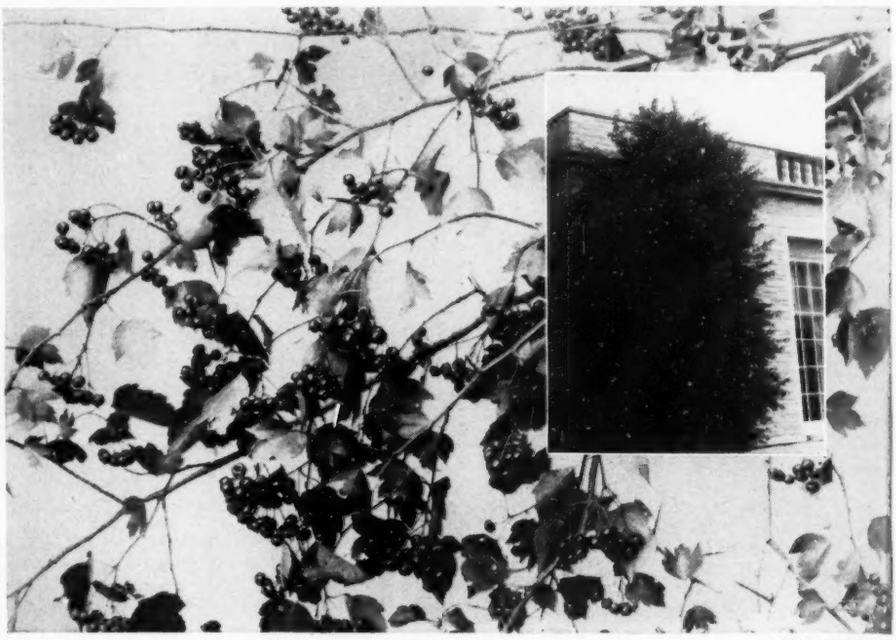
Washington Thorn



ARNOLD ARBORETUM

OF THE SEVERAL HUNDRED SPECIES of hawthorns native over the entire United States, one stands out prominently as an excellent ornamental tree. It is Crataegus phaenopyrum, the Washington thorn which does well all across the country.

Seldom is this tree found growing more than 30 feet high. In fact, the largest tree on record, according to the American Forestry Association, is at Laurel, Maryland. It measures 2 feet, 9 inches, in trunk circumference and 25 feet in height and has a 23-foot branch span.

The single white flowers, about ½ inch in diameter but borne in many-flowered clusters, appear in mid-June. One of the last hawthorns to bloom, the Washington thorn flowers at a time when few other ornamental trees bloom.

Just as important as its flowers are the clusters of bright red fruits. The berries are about ¼ inch in diameter, and begin to color brightly in early fall.

One of the first things one notices about this tree is its habit. Not definitely fastigiate (erect and columnar), it is nevertheless upright in habit of growth. And with a very small amount of trimming, it can quickly be made to appear fastigiate. This is a big asset, for the tree is frequently used in highway planting—often in the narrow strip between divided highways, where it helps cut down headlight glare at night.

Like all hawthorns, it seems to withstand poor soil and drought, two reasons why it is so successful in city gardens. It is not superior to the tree-of-heaven or the sumacs in this respect, but it will withstand difficult growing conditions.

The autumn color of the foliage is an excellent glossy red to orange, another reason for considering this tree of year-round interest. The dense twiggy habit and the numerous inch-long thorns make it an excellent barrier plant, and it withstands clipping into hedge form very well indeed. Its general habit and ornamental qualities make it useful as a specimen tree also.

However, this excellent tree is not immune to the troubles common to most hawthorns. Lacebug and red spider may attack the foliage in summer. Sprays for both these pests are not difficult to time properly. Fire blight can trouble many thorns as well as apples, pears and cotoneasters. Controlling this disease is difficult but all dead or dying branches should be removed as soon as noticed and burned. Borers, too, cause trouble occasionally, getting into the trunks and limbs. And all hawthorns are alternate hosts for the cedar apple rust. Therefore, if the red cedar is prevalent within a radius of one mile from a proposed planting site, this Washington thorn should be considered carefully before it is planted to any great extent.▶

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November Pointers

TIPS FOR NORTHERN GARDENERS

by P. J. McKENNA (N. Y.)

NOT ENOUGH EMPHASIS is placed on winter's beneficial effect on soil. The solvent action of freezing, thawing, rain and snow, together with lime applications, do much to break down heavy soil. For maximum benefit, the soil must be dug or plowed in fall and left in a rough lumpy state. This allows penetration to a depth not possible with a smooth surface. Digging the soil into ridges is still better—and on a sloping site, this is the only method. The ridges, running across the slope, prevent washing or erosion, and the snow and ice which collect between them produce the greatest benefit.

Fall digging or plowing of heavy soil is standard practice by the professional. And for greatest improvement of clay soil (or any other soil, for that matter), incorporate organic matter, superphosphate and lime into the soil at digging or plowing time. The organic matter can be manure, compost (even though it is only partly rotted), decayed leaves or similar material. Spread this over the area 2 or more inches deep and scatter superphosphate—3 pounds per 100 square feet—on top. If you are plowing the soil rather than digging it, plow under this covering. Finally, spread the lime on top. On heavy clay, use 4 pounds of lime per 100 square feet. On lighter soils, 2 pounds.

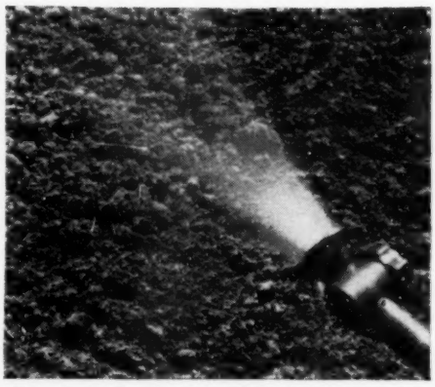
If the soil is to be dug, the system called single digging is used. It consists, first, of digging a foot-wide trench across one end of the plot, removing the soil to a spade's depth. The soil from this first trench is deposited at the opposite corner of the plot, where the digging will finish. The organic matter and superphosphate have already been spread on the surface, and a foot-wide, trench-long section of this cover is then pushed into the newly opened trench and covered by digging a second foot-wide trench parallel to the first and throwing the soil from it into

TO PREPARE POTTING SOIL THE EASY WAY . . .

MONSANTO PHOTOS

1 Spread out garden soil on canvas and then sprinkle prescribed quantity of one of the new soil conditioners over it.

2 Unless your soil is very rich, add a quantity of plant food too. Mix both these ingredients thoroughly into soil.



3 Sprinkle mixture lightly; then give conditioner time to work, that is, to cause the soil particles to aggregate.

4 Next the actual potting. (If soil is potted after watering, conditioner will act on pot, making soil stick to it.)

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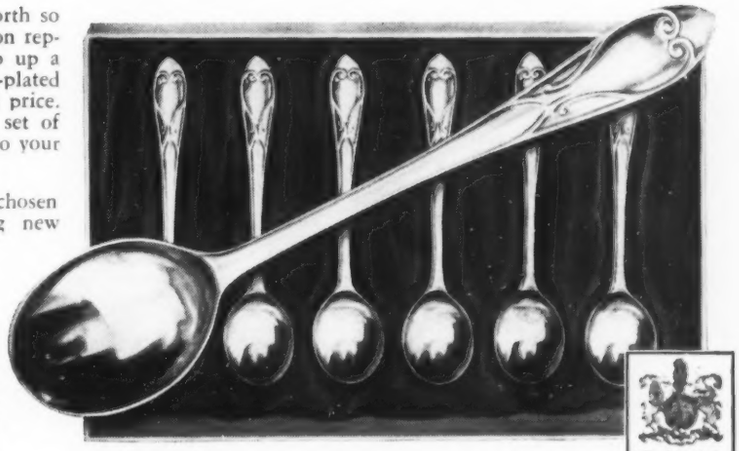

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the first trench. The process of pushing in organic matter and covering it with soil is then repeated until the end of the plot is reached, when the soil from the first trench is used to fill the final one. The trick is to maintain this foot-wide trench throughout the operation.

Lily Bulbs

It is difficult to get lily bulbs early enough for planting before the ground freezes. There are two ways of handling the problem. The planting area can be covered with leaves to prevent its freezing. Or, if the bulbs arrive very late, they can be potted and the pots placed outdoors in a convenient place and covered with leaves or hay. In spring, the bulbs will be well rooted and can then be taken out of the pots and carefully planted without disturbing the ball of roots. Of course, bulbs of many lilies can be purchased in spring and planted then.

The Coldframe

Unless the coldframe is occupied with cuttings of hardy material which must be wintered over, it can be used in many ways. Bulbs for flowering in the home are buried in the coldframe after potting and kept there until fully rooted. Somewhat tender spring-flowering material—pansies, daisies and the like—are better off when given the protection of a coldframe, particularly in sections of extreme cold. The same is true of chrysanthemums. Although they are called hardy, most mums need protection. It's best to lift choice varieties to be sure of a sufficient supply the following year.

Whatever the material planted in the coldframe, do not let the interior become heated up through the glass. Keep the plants cold by covering them with marsh hay or by leaving the sash off of the frame during the day. As real winter approaches, the glass sash should be put on and carefully blanketed with hay, mats or some other covering. On dry, winter days, a complete airing is beneficial to dry out the plants.▶

Garden Events

Nov. 5-7, New York, N. Y.—Autumn Exhibition, Horticultural Society of New York, Essex House.

Nov. 6-22, New York, N. Y.—Indoor Chrysanthemum Show, The New York Botanical Garden.

Nov. 7-8, Florence, S. C.—Fall Camellia Show, Men's Garden Club of the Pee Dee, Florence Armory.

Nov. 7-8, Jackson, Miss.—National Chrysanthemum Show, National Chrysanthemum Society, Hotel Edwards.

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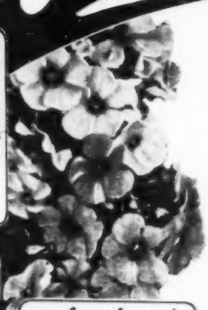

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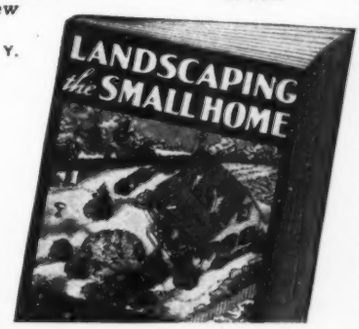

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A FLOWER GROWER FEATURE

Books for

by ESTHER C. GRAYSON

It's exciting to receive gift books on your favorite gardening subject and fun to give them too! This year the garden book shelves are as brimful as a Christmas stocking with a wide selection for every gardener on your gift list.

In sorting out the garden books on my desk according to subject I find four on flower arrangement with a number of others on assorted horticultural subjects. It just goes to show that house decoration with cut flowers still leads the field.

A History of Flower Arrangement, Europe, England, Japan, China, United States, by Julia S. Berrall, Crowell, New York, $6.50 is the most impressive work in the group. Like Period Flower Arrangement by Margaret Fairbanks Marcus, published last winter, Mrs. Berrall's book considers the sources of our present art of flower decoration, beginning with Egypt, Persia, Greece and Rome. Medieval Europe, the Italian Renaissance, Dutch and Flemish paintings, France, England, America in the Colonial and Victorian Periods are next considered; then Chinese and Japanese flower art, and finally Contemporary Arrangements.

In comparing the two books, Period Flower Arrangement was written by a specialist in Oriental art and a teacher at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston and the Cleveland Museum of Art. She speaks with the voice of unquestioned authority on flower art through the ages. Mrs. Berrall is primarily an arranger but one who has done much research on her chosen subject. The profuse illustrations in color and black and white have been well chosen. Reproductions from stone reliefs, wall paintings, mosaics, altarpieces, paintings, objets d' art, prints, engravings, etc. range from the earliest representations of the use of cut flowers in art to their use as a decoration on a quaint Pennsylvania Dutch birth certificate. There are many photographs of Oriental flower art and of modern arrangements, many of the latter created by the author herself. These for the most part, appeal more to this reviewer than Mrs. Berrall's period arrangements, several of which are reproduced in color.

It is always a pleasure to find that Constance Spry, the beloved, perennial flower arranger of England, has written a new book on the subject. Her latest, The Art of Arranging Flowers, is freely illustrated with 25 reproductions in full color and another 24 in black and white.

The slim volume of 69 pages contains, in addition to the many pictures with descriptions, chapters on choosing flowers, color, principles, vases, holders and other practical points. A foreword by Beverly Nichols, in his own inimitable style gets the book off to a good start and there is also a charming introduction by the author herself.

As Mr. Nichols says, the art of Constance Spry is that of "seeing things for the first time in a new way, and seeing them whole and seeing them isolated from convention." . . . "It means bouts with brambles, flirtations with ferns, and carnivals with cabbages." "Some of Constance's arrangements of the leaves of kale have the classic perfection of an early Florentine bronze; she achieves enchanting effects with purple-sprouting broccoli; and I should not be surprised if one day I found her doing something gay and delightful with a basket of brussels sprouts."

Though, to the American flower arranger, Mrs. Spry's work is bound to seem diffuse and lacking in clean-cut design, it does have the important qualities of originality and freedom, combined with a keen and singing sense of color. Her arrangements of such garden materials as foxgloves, aquilegia, wall flowers and honeysuckle are a delight, while her reproductions and modern versions of Flemish and other very early fruit and flower compositions show a rich abandon to the spirit of the times seldom achieved by modern artists.

Mrs. Spry has her own very special niche in the flower arrangement picture. Her work is unique, full of gaiety and charm. I agree with Mr. Nichols that "it is always pleasant to pay tribute to an artist of such freshness and delicacy." The book is published by Thomas Y. Crowell & Co. N. Y. C. $5.00.

In quite a different vein is Carl Starker's Album of Arrangements, Chieftain Press, Seattle, Washington, $7.50. Though not Mr. Starker's first book on this subject, it is by far the most impressive, running to 258 pages, a picture book with descriptions showing 200 black and white, and 24 reproductions in full color.

Except for brief chapters on containers and bases, the whole volume is taken up

ROCHE

Garden books have always played an important part in the life of Helen S. Hull, 1953 president of the American Horticultural Council. She herself has written a book, "Wild Flowers for Your Garden," shown on opposite page. Mrs. Hull has held the presidency too of the National Council of State Garden Clubs.

Gardeners

This reproduction of an 18th-century painting is only one of the many fine illustrations in "A History of Flower Arrangement" depicting the decorative use of cut flowers through the ages.

with the reproductions of the author's own arrangements, with descriptions. These are divided according to the seasons of the year.

Considering the large number of arrangements by one artist shown here, the average is extremely good. Mr. Starker emphasizes flower decoration for the home. Show work is not his specialty. As the simpler type of composition is popular and fills a real need, this latest book should be deservedly popular.

ARRANGEMENTS ON PARADE, in its third annual edition, comes as a publication of the Donna Garden Club of Donna, Texas and features black and white photographs, with descriptions, of almost one hundred arrangements of the current year. The work of Texas clubs is dominant of course but compositions by artists in many other states, South Africa, Canada, Hawaii, Cuba, Colombia and England are also reproduced.

There is great variety here, naturally, with arrangements to suit every taste. The closing section Flower Show Suggestions, reproduces a number of prize winning show arrangements, gives a number of suggested themes, staging tips and general advice by a number of nationally accredited instructors.

In this coronation year, it is quite natural that an English book should appear on THE ROYAL GARDENERS, King George VI and His Queen. Written by W. E. Shewell-Cooper, Principal of the

A few of the more than 40 top-notch garden books put out by various publishers, which have been offered to American Garden Guild Book Club members during the past year.

The Ideal Companions For Any Gardener

Picture Primer of DOORYARD GARDENING

By Margaret O. Goldsmith

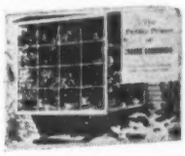
with color illustrations by John Brimer & Else Bostelmann.

How to beautify an acre or a few hundred feet.

Picture Primer of INDOOR GARDENING

By Margaret O. Goldsmith

with color illustrations by Harrie Wood.



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■ It shows you how to make the most of your own personal taste and creative sensitivity; how to make the freest and most effective use of the materials at your disposal; how to achieve originality of arrangement through an understanding of the proper functions of line, form, texture, pattern, color, balance and contrast.

■ Selecting at random a hundred different flowers and plants with a wide geographic range, Mr. Conway shows each with its own foliage alone in black-and-white. He also shows the identical material rearranged and including additional material and climaxes these two illustrations with a full-page arrangement of the featured subject in full color. A full page of text describes each grouping of arrangements and supplies interesting information on the general characteristics of the subject.

■ Here is the way to blues at flower shows, and to very real pleasure. No other book on flower arranging contains as much information so beautifully presented. *At your bookstore, or*

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Horticultural Training Center at Thaxted, and Director of the Horticultural Educational Advisory Bureau, and published by Cassell & Co., Ltd., of London, ($2.50), the 66-page book, freely illustrated in black and white and in color, tells the story of the five royal gardens.

Layouts of the gardens are described, head gardeners as well as the Royal Family itself are freely photographed and the favorite plant materials of the King and Queen are illustrated and described.

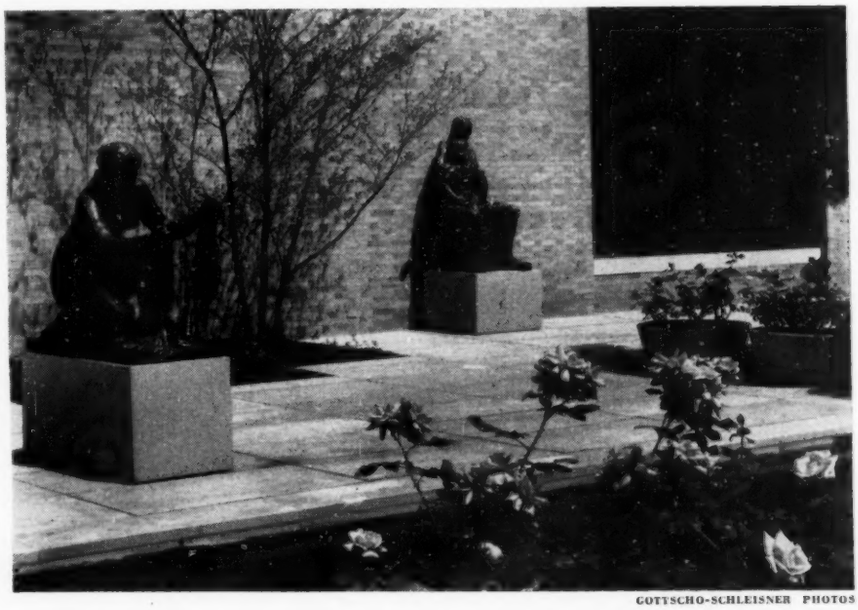
While speaking of English gardening it might be well to discuss Volume 4 of the British Gardens and Gardening series ROCK WALL AND WATER, edited by F. A. Mercer and Roy Hay and published by The Studio Gardening Annual, Studio Publications. 143 pages. $4.50.

It would be hard to find a more appealing book on a favorite subject. From the illustration in natural color on the jacket of Gentiana oranta, through the well printed text on creamy paper, to the dozens of charming sepia photogravures of rock walls, rock gardens and pools, this is a pleasant volume to hold, to read, and to study. Subjects discussed are wall gardens, sink and trough gardens, constructing and planting a rock garden, water in the garden, waterlilies, and pool and stream: plants and planting. Each section is by a different author, a specialist in his field, and each section is accompanied by a list of suitable plant material with blooming time, color, height and soil preference of each item listed.

PHLOX by B. H. B. Symons-Jeune is a monograph by the introducer of most of the best English strains of this popular flower. He holds many awards and gold

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 16]

Roses and modern art



GOTTSCHO-SCHLEISNER PHOTOS

Pot plantings of the exquisite, free-blooming floribunda rose Fashion are being used with noteworthy success by the Museum of Modern Art to spark its exhibition "Sculpture of the 20th Century." This All-America Rose Selection and winner of six international awards represents the best in modern-day roses and so is a particularly fitting choice to complement modern sculpture.

The exhibit is located in the museum's Abbey Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden. Although this garden is surfaced largely with marble, small garden areas—filled with a variety of planting material—dot it throughout. However, the only color in the entire garden is supplied by Fashion's generous clusters of salmon-pink blossoms.

Two views of the Museum of Modern Art's 20th-century sculpture exhibit colorfully complemented with potfuls of the pink, prize-winning floribunda Fashion. Jackson & Perkins furnished the plants.

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Above Evergreen Azaleas are shipped proper transplanting size, well established 2½" to 5". Please do not confuse these genuine Kurume and Indica Evergreen Azaleas with unnamed deciduous cheaper Azaleas. The blossoms make a solid mass of flowers in Springtime. Known the world over for their breath-taking beauty. May be grown indoors or outdoors. Good for Hedge, Border, Arrangement or Background. Will bloom next Spring. Culture instruction included.

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Fast grower and climbs up to 20 feet the first season, producing literally hundreds of Scarlet Red roses Spring, Summer and Fall. These climbers can be trimmed to make a compact heavy bush that will produce almost a solid mass of Scarlet Red roses. Or they can be trained to run on fence or trellis. Guaranteed to bloom next Spring.

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.....DWARF AZALEAS
.....CLIMBER ROSES

Quantity .....MULTIFLORA ROSES (Fence Rose)
.....CAMELLIAS
.....MUMS
.....HEMLOCK

medals for his phlox from the English shows.

In 127 pages of closely packed text and illustration, the author covers every aspect from soil to propagation, hybridizing and troubles. Such species as P. Drummondi, and Alpine Phlox are also discussed. (D. Van Nostrand & Co., N. Y. C. $3.50.)

PERENNIALS IN A BISHOP'S GARDEN, Dorrance & Co. Philadelphia. $3.00, 161 pages, is by Lydia Marshall Green, a descendant of Humphry Marshal who wrote the first botanical book published in North America. In her preface, Mrs. Green tells us that the title of her book is drawn from the fact that she planned a most interesting assortment of perennials for "The Bishop's Garden" in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

There are 140 perennials listed in this book, each with its family, number of genera and species; genus with number of species; varieties with pronunciations, and scientific names with derivations. The native habitat of each plant is given together with its description, cultural requirements and other pertinent data.

With so much concentrated information squeezed between its covers, the several pages of well chosen quotations on gardens and garden flowers are especially welcome.

SUCCULENT PLANTS other than cacti by A. Bertrand is a translation from the French as the author is the president of the French association of amateur cactus growers. Printed and published by the Philosophical Library, New York. $4.75.

This pocket-sized volume is well illustrated in color and black and white. There are chapters on succulents in their natural environment, cultivation, propagation, and enemies. Eight chapters are then devoted to the various families and species of horticultural interest.

HOLLIES by H. Harold Hume, published by Macmillan Company, is a monograph on one of the most interesting of broad-leaved evergreens. The author, who is Dean Emeritus of the College of Agriculture at the University of Florida is an outstanding authority on the ilex. His previous horticultural works include books on Camellias, Azaleas and Citrus Fruits.

Hollies, which runs to 242 pages, is freely illustrated with photographs, black and white drawings and color plates. Its 17 chapters cover all possible phases of a complex subject, including botany, propagation, planting, culture and pests. A chapter is devoted to each group: English, Chinese, Japanese, Evergreen, Deciduous, Caffeine, etc. Noteworthy American hollies in various parts of this country are also discussed.

FLOWER GROWER'S

Modern Gardener

TAKE STEPS NOW TO MINIMIZE WINTER INJURY TO TREES AND SHRUBS

by P. P. PIRONE

NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

PLANTS growing in poorly drained soils are far more subject to winter damage than those growing in well drained ones. They also tend to heave more readily when the frost leaves the ground in spring. Plants growing in well drained soil have roots that are more luxuriant and that penetrate more deeply. Such plants are more resistant to low-temperature injury and to heaving.

There are, of course, many other factors that govern a tree's or shrub's ability to withstand low temperatures. The maturity of the wood is one. For trees and shrubs fed with excessive amounts of high nitrogenous fertilizers or those making considerable growth in late fall are more commonly injured.

Location, natural protection, plant species and character of the root system are additional factors which govern winter hardiness.

Autumn Frost Damage

The growing season is prolonged in areas where a warm autumn follows a cool summer. In such areas, twigs, buds and branches fail to mature properly and therefore are more subject to injury by early autumn frosts or unseasonable cold waves.

Aside from extensive damage to branches and roots, unfavorable fall and winter temperatures produce more or less localized injuries on trunks and branches known as frost cracks. These usually appear on the south and west sides of the trunk, since these areas are heated by the sun's rays and a greater gradient prevails when the temperature drops suddenly during the night.

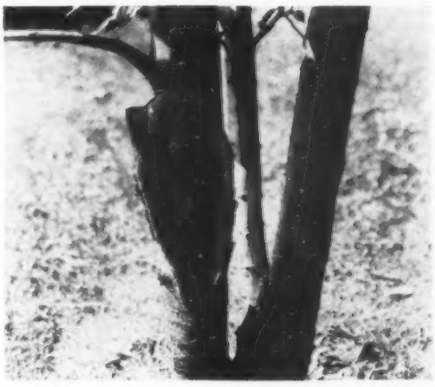
Deciduous trees appear to be more subject to frost cracking than do evergreens. Among the former, Norway maple, elm, horsechestnut, linden, oak and plane suffer most.

Drying of Evergreens

Winter injury to such evergreens as rhododendron, laurel, holly, pine, spruce and fir is rarely caused by excessive winter cold. The damage results from excessive and rapid fluctuations in temperature or from late spring freezes after the plants have resumed activity.

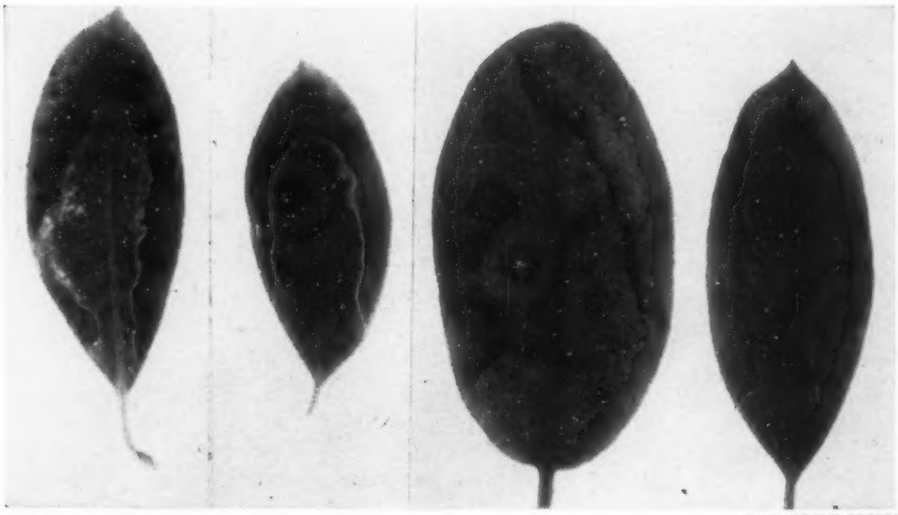
Evergreens lose water continuously. Although water loss is less in winter, it may be considerably increased over the usual amount when the plants are subjected to drying winds or are grown in warm sunny spots. Unless the water lost during this period is replaced by absorption through the roots, the leaves wilt, turn brown and may die.

Thus it is obvious that the ability of a plant to withstand low temperatures



Winter injury on trunk of a cherry tree

Frost crack on young horsechestnut tree



P. P. PIRONE PHOTOS

Laurel and rhododendron leaves showing marginal browning resulting from winter drying

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. . . but continues all year long — a constant reminder next spring, summer and fall of your thoughtfulness this winter.

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depends on many factors beyond man's control. In some instances, however, certain precautions can be taken to reduce the possibility of winter damage.

To insure an ample winter supply of moisture for evergreens, the soil around them should be thoroughly soaked before freezing weather sets in.

One good way to wind-protect broad-leaved evergreens such as rhododendron and laurel is to use windbreaks of coniferous evergreens, which as a rule suffer less severely.

Other wind and sun shields which have proved effective for evergreens in some places are evergreen boughs inserted among the shrubs before the ground freezes or a screen of corn stalks. Used, too, are screens of burlaps or boards to protect the more tender subjects.

The material Wilf-Pruf can be sprayed directly on the foliage of evergreens. It forms a thin transparent coating, which reduces water loss from the leaves without preventing the normal movement of gases in and out of the leaves.

In the case of all trees and shrubs, heavy mulches of oak-leafmold or acid peatmoss will prevent deep freezing of soil and thus facilitate water absorption by the roots. This will help greatly to minimize winter injury.

Deer Control

In some sections of the country, wintry weather has arrived. Soon heavy snows can be expected and with them a lack of forage for many wild animals. Deer, particularly, will cause heavy damage to unprotected trees and shrubs in the more rural areas.

Thanks to modern science, a repellent known as Goodrite z.i.p. can be sprayed on valuable trees, shrubs and berry bushes in late fall to provide protection against deer. A spray containing a pound of z.i.p. to 25 gallons of water should be applied to deciduous trees and shrubs after most of the leaves have fallen but before snow.

This spray makes the leaves so unpalatable to deer that only a few bites are enough to convince them. The animals will not establish themselves in the vicinity of sprayed plants but will move to unsprayed areas before bad weather restricts their travel.

Goodrite z.i.p. has recently been found to repel other animals too. Trees and shrubs sprayed with it will prevent horses from nibbling. And when painted or sprayed on fences, posts and buildings, it controls cribbing. Goats, cattle and raccoons also stay away from treated plants, some users report.

This repellent does not harm animals which taste treated plants. Nor is it harmful to the plants sprayed. Because z.i.p. contains a special adhesive, its effectiveness is not impaired by rain, snow or wind.

Biological Warfare

According to Philip B. Dowden, in 1950 entomologists successfully disseminated a virus disease of the European sawfly in Ontario, Canada. The next year, the virus was made available for use in New Jersey, where complete control was effected on a small area treated with a knapsack sprayer. In 1952 excellent control was obtained in Illinois when the virus was applied with ground equipment and in New Jersey when applied from an airplane.

•

Among the new fungicides that will soon appear on the market are merculine and mercadmine.

The former is a high potency mercury solution recommended as an eradicant and protective fungicide for grass and fruit disease control, soil disinfestation, root rot control and treatment of seed.

NEW AIDS FOR THE MODERN GARDENER

Snapperizer

The latest attachment for the Snappin Turtle mower is the Snapperizer leaf mulcher. The accessory, which can be attached to either the 19- or 25-inch models in five minutes, grinds the leaves into small particles and deposits them on the lawn as a mulch. (Southern Saw Works, Inc., Atlanta, Ga.)

Rake-Ho

A new garden tool designed to do five different garden jobs is Rake-Ho. Its 11 sharp teeth of malleable iron make raking jobs a cinch. Turned over, it serves as hoe and cultivator. Extending from one end is a sharp blade, to be used for cutting through roots or heavy weeds. The opposite end has an arrow-like projection for making furrows. (The New Haven Tool Co., New Haven, Conn.)

Soil Test Kit

The pocket-size Garden-Guide Soil Acidity Test kit is an unusually handy, accurate and inexpensive unit for determining the pH factor of soils. No test tubes required, no measuring of reagents. Simply fill large well in porcelain plate with soil, add test solution with dropper, tilt plate to drain off solution into smaller well, and test is completed. Soil color indicates exact degree of acidity. Kit also includes plant soil-preference lists and liming tables. Refills are available. (LaMotte Chemical Products Company, Towson, Baltimore 4, Md.)

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Enjoy a rainbow of color in your home during the drab winter months. Growing flowers indoors is not difficult — if you use the best bulbs money can buy. We offer you just such bulbs. Buy some today. Free planting instructions with each order.

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- ☐ **L'INNOCENCE.** Pure white.

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- ☐ **PINK PERFECTION.** Carmine-pink.
- ☐ **RED ROVER.** Brilliant red. Large.
- ☐ **SALMON QUEEN.** Fine salmon-orange.
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☐ **All 10 (1 of each) $30.00**

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The "Sacred Lily of India". An extremely rare bulb that produces an enormous Calla-like flower inside during the winter without benefit of soil or water. Planted outside in the spring, it produces a most ornamental palm-like tree or dwarf habit.

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- ☐ **SULPHUR YELLOW**

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- ☐ **MOUNT BLANC.** Pure white.
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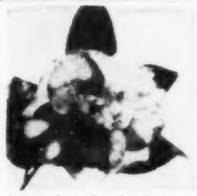

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West Coast Gardening

By LESTER ROWNTREE

On the Atlantic Coast, what will grow in one state has a good chance of succeeding in adjoining states. Not so in California, where the climate may change every few miles, and what is a triumph in one county may be a flop in the next. This is particularly true of roses. Before placing your rose order, ferret out all possible information.

Southern California

November may bring the first frost. If warnings are sent out, two of the perennials to cover are marguerites and bird-of-paradise.

Watch your lemon trees for red scale, and at the first glimpse of this nasty pest, spray with a heavy emulsion oil, following instructions closely. Be sure to cover both sides of leaves and branches.

California Fog Belt

It seems a pity that in the Fog Belt, the very region where the proud coast redwood reaches its peak of glory, we seldom or never see the dwarf form of this superb giant. The dwarf form is carried by English nurserymen, and though not common, it is grown in English gardens. Sequoia sempervirens nana pendula may have a branch span of 5 feet or more and a trunk diameter of 2 or 3 feet. The lower boughs touch the earth all around, and one individual makes a complete picture.

Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys

It's not too late to tuck groups of daffodils and ranunculus in among the perennials, giving thought to the height, color and blooming time of neighboring plants. Daffodils can well be used in the chrysanthemum bed, for the daffodil foliage will brown when the mums are about a foot tall and can then be cut or the bulbs lifted.

Pacific Northwest

Two of the Northwest's loveliest wild flowers, Phlox adsurgens and Silene hookeri, are disappearing perhaps more rapidly than most. Wherever possible, these two should be grown. Give the Phlox adsurgens a humusy, half-shady bank where it will get moisture and sharp drainage. Salmon pink Silene hookeri, takes sun or light shade and a heavier soil.▶

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Southern Gardens

by JULIA LESTER DILLON

No plantings are stronger or finer than the fragrant hyacinths, provided your garden is large enough so that they can be used for spectacular effects. In formal beds, too, they can be used to advantage.

Contrasting colors of pansies between hyacinth plantings are delightful. With City of Haarlem, dark purple or deep blue pansies make an enchanting picture. And white L'Innocence grown in a long narrow bed with yellow pansies forms a charming design. Hyacinth pictures are always more effective when you use these bulbs in solid variety groups rather than in mixed colors.

If your soil is heavy and clayey, lighten it with sandy loam before planting hyacinths.

TULIPS come next on our planting list. How can you plant them so that you will not have to take them up each season and yet achieve year-in-year-out bloom? The secret is to set them deep, at least 8 or even 10 inches down, and then leave them alone. Last spring the tulips which I planted ten years ago flowered as beautifully and unanimously as the first year.

CROCUS are not used by many growers for spring bloom, but if you can find money and space for them, put them in. They are long-lasting and easy to grow, and bloom so early in such soft and beautiful colors that we all should use them.

SCILLA HISPANICA (S. campanulata), which come in soft and dainty colors, are also long-lasting and easily grown. Blue scilla is worth-while anywhere. A particular advantage of scilla is that the foliage disappears almost as soon as the flowers fade.

LILIES are musts in every southern garden. And most desirable of all are the Centifolium Olympic hybrids. Just give them a place in the border, and year after year their lovely white bells will appear in increasing numbers.

The Bellingham hybrids, perfected by Luther Burbank, afford a range of brilliant colors in these fine lilies. The Fiesta hybrids are also sparkling.

CRINUM bulbs are very large and should be planted shallowly. The plants like half shade, and do well in mixed borders.▶

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MAX TATCH

WHAT TO GIVE WHOM AT CHRISTMAS

This being the month of Thanksgiving, which in many people's minds is a sort of prelude to Christmas, my thoughts at the moment seem to drift unswervingly toward the theme I harped on here a couple of years ago—gifts for gardeners and how to pick and not to pick them.

Probably there are no statistics, accurate or inaccurate, on the real feelings of people toward the gifts they receive at Christmas—on the number or percentage of gifts, for instance, that are very welcome, moderately welcome, moderately unwelcome, very unwelcome and that have no appreciable effect on their recipients one way or the other. But everyone, certainly, has received gifts that weren't wanted, and so we must assume that we've given gifts that weren't wanted either. Well, can't something be done about it?

I can't prove it, but I feel pretty certain that most of our bad choices of Christmas gifts are made because of the way we go about making those choices. All too often we're just plain prejudiced. Usually without realizing it, we mull over what we ourselves would like, or rather what we think we'd like, and then proceed to convince ourselves that our friends and relatives would like the same things. But would they?

Admittedly it isn't always easy to learn what someone would like for Christmas without directly asking him and then pressing him for an honest answer. Sometimes, of course, you just can't do that. Most times you wouldn't like to anyway. Occasionally, though, you can and should. But it's when you can't or wouldn't like to that you're up against a problem.

Actually, though, the problem is a real one only when the kind of gift you're thinking of choosing is what you might call "special" or "personal" or anything else that might distinguish it from the "practical" or "everyday" kind of gift. A person's reasons for wanting certain "special" gifts, and not wanting others, are pretty complicated, and they change rather frequently, and so, unless you know the person almost as well as you know yourself, the odds are always against your being able to figure them out. And probably the odds aren't much better that you'll choose "just the right thing" for any but very close friends.

So in most cases, I guess, it's far safer to think about choosing "practical," "everyday" gifts—the kind that people always can use, always want and always welcome. True, they don't go into ecstasy over such gifts, but at least they don't gush over them on receipt and then go around suggesting you're daffy either.

Well, then, suppose you have to choose gifts for quite a few friends and relatives who happen to be gardeners. First take those whose "special" wants you don't really know. What's the matter with giving one a bag of fertilizer, another a package of soil conditioner, another a bottle of insecticide-fungicide, another a can of selective weed killer, another a package of compost activator, another a bale of peatmoss? Sure, they're prosaic all right, but they're also mighty useful and they're certain to be genuinely welcome. And they'd all prove that you had the friend or relative, not yourself, in mind, and were quite sane, when you chose them.

For those whose needs you know somewhat better, how about something a little more "special" but still something you're certain is going to be welcome—something the person doesn't own but which you know, really know, he could and would use. For instance, a pair of pruning shears, a lawn sprinkler, a sprayer or duster, a hedge or lawn trimmer, a tractor or power mower attachment, a fertilizer spreader, a soil test kit, a FLOWER GROWER subscription, a new garden book.

Plant materials (except for "beginner's collections," etc.) are really in the "special" or "personal" gift category and so should be reserved for people whose likes and dislikes, whose possessions and wants, you know from A to Z. The one thing to remember, always, is that if a person goes in for roses, or African violets, or gladiolus, or rock garden plants, he's sure to have pretty definite ideas on most available species and varieties and would definitely like to have some and would just as definitely not like to have others.

The point I've really been emphasizing is that choosing the right Christmas gift for a gardener, as for anyone else, requires and deserves some serious thought. If you want to make "right" choices, this is the month to do your thinking and choosing.

Theodore A. Weston

McFARLAND PHOTOS

Excessive as fallen foliage may seem in the raking, it is all useful in the garden. Oak leaves make an ideal mulch for broadleaved evergreens that prefer acid soil, helping to retain needed moisture.

WINTERIZE your Garden

by JAMES H. BURDETT (Ill.)

To the beginning gardener the idea of tucking plants under cover in the fall may seem a natural and desirable way to keep them warm during winter. But he soon learns that it is not cold that does most damage to perennial plants, but unseasonable warmth. This, of course, does not apply to plants of questionable hardiness in any locality; they are not considered here.

Plants of proven hardiness may be relied upon to survive cold weather, even benefit from it, both roots and tops. For plants in general, protection is needed to prevent the soil from thawing out; for evergreens in particular, protection is used to minimize the drying effect of winter winds and sunshine upon the leaves.

In the lee of a house, evergreens survive with a straw mulch that keeps soil moist.

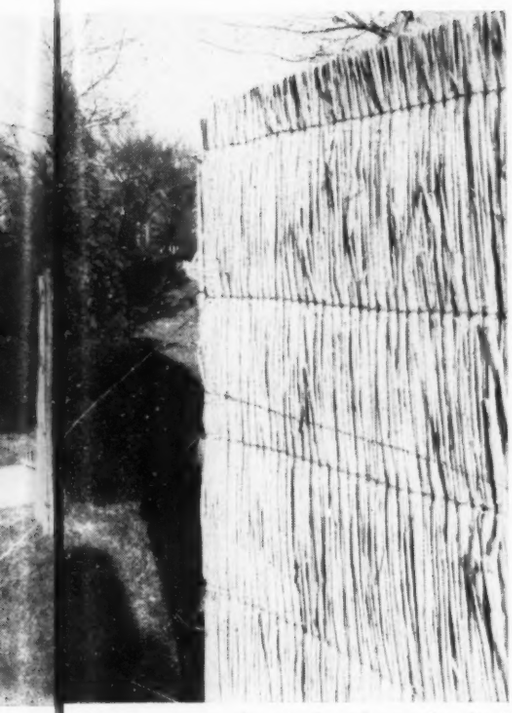
The top growth of plants, of course, is subjected to much colder temperatures than their roots. The soil in even our coldest areas rarely freezes deeper than 3 to 4 feet. Lowest temperatures are found in a hard frozen crust at the surface. Even that is rarely colder than zero and tends to insulate the soil below it, where the temperature rises rapidly the deeper you go. Air temperatures fall much lower, and occasionally rise much higher than those in the soil. When this happens trouble starts.

Herbaceous perennials with tops that die down to the ground in winter have relatively shallow roots. When an unseasonably warm spell thaws a few inches of the frozen soil crust, puddles are created where water stands. This excludes air from the plant tissues below it, which may cause disease, decay and death. If the water stands long enough the plants will drown.

When alternate freezing and thawing spells are frequent, heaving may lift shallow-rooted plants entirely out of the soil, or raise them enough so that they lose contact with soil moisture. If this goes unnoticed until too late for correction, the plants will die.

A mulch to shade the soil over herbaceous plants, put in place after a frozen crust has formed in the fall, tends to stabilize soil temperature, forestall thawing and save the plants from frost heaving. The shallower the roots of the plants, the more necessary the mulch. Peonies and iris suffer considerably from frost heaving. All plants that maintain green crowns through the winter—such as foxgloves, canterbury bells, primulas and chrysanthemums—are highly susceptible to decay from surface water and excessive dampness. The mulch protecting these particular plants must admit light and air to the green foliage, otherwise it will die and the plant will starve.

Excelsior, glass wool, evergreen boughs



Tall screens to the windward guard prized evergreens from the searing sun and wind.

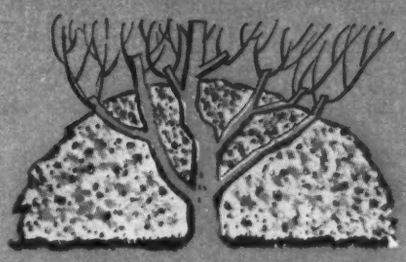
and old baskets inverted over the plants are often used to give protective shade while admitting both light and air. Where there is no green growth above the soil surface, materials such as dried leaves, straw, marsh and salt hay, dried lawn clippings, sphagnum moss, peat moss and strawy manure serve the purpose.

"Mulch" comes from a word root meaning decay. Apparently, strawy manure was the original mulch, and its use is ancient. Fifty years ago it was commonly spread over lawns in the fall, where it did more harm than good, contributing an annual sowing of weed seeds. Lawns need no mulch over winter, but they do suffer almost every spring from frost heaving. A light roller should be used after the soil begins to dry out, to press the turf in contact with the earth.

A planting of bulbs of doubtful hardiness will find the soil much warmer when a mulch is strewn over the ground above them. If it is heavy enough, it may cause the ground to thaw to the surface. Snow, said to be the ideal mulch, often does this when it lies several inches deep for many days.

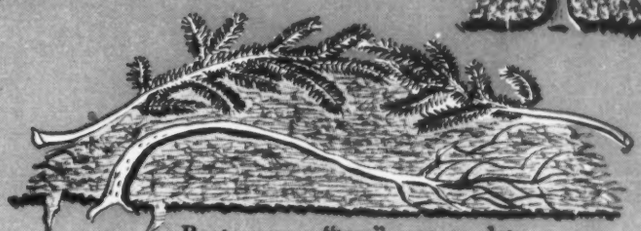
Even in the best regulated gardens, setting out of hardy bulbs is sometimes delayed until late fall. A mulch applied after planting and before the soil freezes will keep it from freezing and permit the bulbs to make [SEE PAGE 46]

HERE ARE WAYS TO PROTECT PLANTS



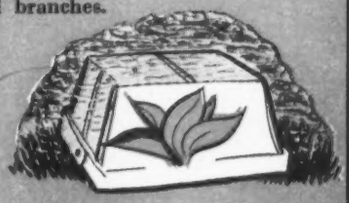
Mound soil high around base of rose bushes.

Wrap a "tree" rose in cornstalks or straw or else protect as below.



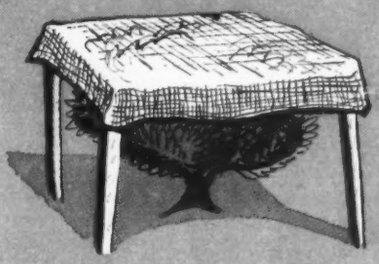
Root-prune a "tree" rose on dotted lines *left;* then bend plant to ground and cover completely with straw, leaves and branches.

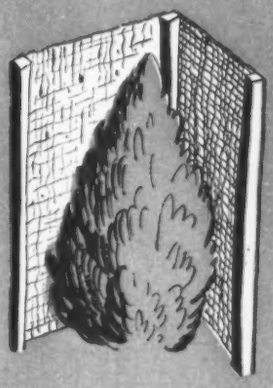
Cover perennials with leaves, grass, straw or peatmoss and anchor with evergreen boughs.



Berry boxes will prevent a mulch from smothering plants with green crowns.

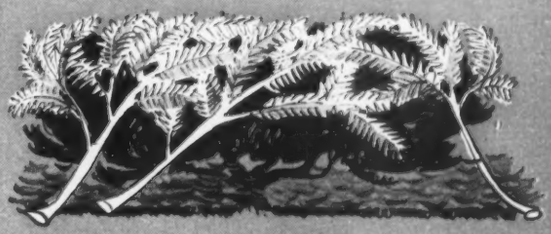
To protect boxwood, erect a roof of burlap. Can also wrap burlap around sides.





Screen exposed evergreens from winter wind and sun.

First two winters after transplanting, wrap the trunks of new-moved trees in heavy burlapping.



Place evergreen boughs over low conifers.

FGS

DRAWINGS BY FRANK SCHWARZ

Judges and committee of the first African violet show, held in 1946, which gave birth to the national Society. *Left to right:* Miss Faye Wilcox, Mrs. O. E. Kellar, C. J. Hudson, Jr., Mrs. J. W. Freed, Mrs. Robert Wright, Boyce Edens, Melvin Greggs and C. E. Good.

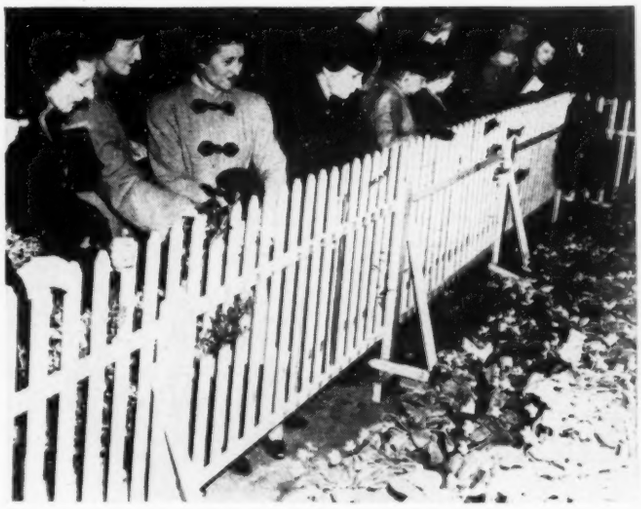
African Violet Society of

2nd in Flower Grower's series on distinguished societies which serve home gardening

Just seven years ago this month in Atlanta, Georgia, the African Violet Society of America catapulted into being. The organization was the spontaneous result of a gathering of judges (many from distant states) for an African violet show put on by the H. G. Hastings Seed Company of Atlanta.

This show, which was reported in the January, 1947, FLOWER GROWER, took Atlanta quite by storm. Instead of the expected attendance of 1,500, some 8,000 people came—from 103 cities and towns in 14 states. And before the curtain rang down on the gala two-day event, both a local and national African violet society had been formed and officers elected and installed.

The man most responsible for the exhibit was show director C. J. Hudson, Jr., of the Hastings Seed Company. Mrs. Frederic L. Beers and Mrs. G. E. Rhodes of Atlanta also contributed much to the success of the show, rounding



A few of the thousands of enthusiasts who flocked to the first African violet show in Atlanta, Georgia. Today the national show is the tremendously popular highlight of the spring convention. Members *love* it, looking and relooking until the doors close.

up judges from Iowa, Ohio, Tennessee and Pennsylvania.

Although the small group which launched the organization was very enthusiastic, none of these folks in their fondest dreams ever foresaw the phenomenal growth and success the Society was to enjoy. Today, just seven years later, the Society has more than 13,000 members hailing from every state in the union as well as from Alaska, Canada, Bermuda, Brazil, the Canal Zone, Central America, Costa Rica, Cuba, England, Hawaii, Mexico, Puerto Rica and even Africa.

The fundamental purpose of the African Violet Society has always been the exchange of ideas and information. The chief tool in accomplishing this is the organization's quarterly publication, the "African Violet Magazine." Indeed, to many people, the magazine is the Society. From the beginning, it has been edited by Alma Wright of Knoxville, Tennessee, who has nursed it along from an 11-page booklet to an attractive, well-illustrated 70- to 80-page magazine with colored cover. The publication carries articles for both the beginner and the advanced grower and hybridizer, information on disease and insect control and reports on newest and finest varieties. To Alma Wright, for her splendid success with the magazine, belongs a good share of the credit for the success of the Society itself. And whenever credit is being handed out for the prosperity of the A.V.S., certainly the name of Boyce M. Edens should be mentioned. Mr. Edens was an original member of the Society and the organization's first treasurer, which position he held until his death last December.

A national convention—generally very well attended—is held each year, usually in April. Speakers include people of national renown as well as some of the society's own members. Undoubtedly the most popular convention feature is the African violet show, which is divided into two sections: plants grown by amateur members [SEE PAGE 28]

by MYRTLE RADTKE

TREASURER AND PAST PRESIDENT

y of America

Best plant in first show was this large specimen of Blue Boy.

Four of this year's officers: *left*, Mrs. H. W. Martin, recording secretary; Neil Miller, registration chairman, Mrs. Arthur Radtke, treasurer; Floyd Johnson, president.

PHOTOS COURTESY THE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

Some of the magnificent new and old varieties exhibited at this year's show in Nashville, Tennessee. Notice that the potted plants are placed inside glass bowls and tilted forward slightly to permit the viewers to look right down into the heart of the plants.

At first show: *from front left*, Mrs. F. Pochurek, Faye Wilcox, Mrs. D. E. Richards, Mrs. R. Blackburn, Mrs. P. J. Crowe, Mrs. Kellar, two unidentified visitors, Mrs. J. Hodan, M. Greggs, Mrs. Freed, the author, Mrs. Wright.

[FROM PAGE 27] and those raised by commercial growers. The latter take this opportunity to introduce their newest developments.

Hospitable Nashville, Tennessee, was the scene of this year's convention, which attracted representatives from 30 states, Canada and Puerto Rica. The 1954 and 1955 meetings will be held in St. Louis, Missouri, and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, respectively. Host cities for the first five conventions were Atlanta, Cincinnati and Dayton, Ohio, Philadelphia and Chicago.

From the time of the founding of the organization, an effort has been made to classify varieties and clarify the whole business of naming. Although much work has been done, the results are still far from complete.

The Society is very proud of its research program. Since 1950, it has been sponsoring research work by post-graduate students in colleges throughout the country. This research covers all phases of culture as well as disease and insect control. Much work has been done on growing African violets under fluorescent light, opening a new field.

Because African violet shows are so popular and widespread, in 1949 at the Dayton convention, the Society inaugurated a Judges' School. Some 150 judges were trained there, and since that time many hundreds more have been qualified in schools held all over the country under the auspices of the Society.

No one knows when or how the African violet enthusiasm will wane—if indeed it ever will. At the time the Society was formed, everyone thought that the peak of interest had been reached. But today, interest is still mounting.

It just seems that people cannot be lukewarm about African violets. Their charm is too compelling. All it takes is a plant or two to begin with, and before long all space in the house is filled.▶

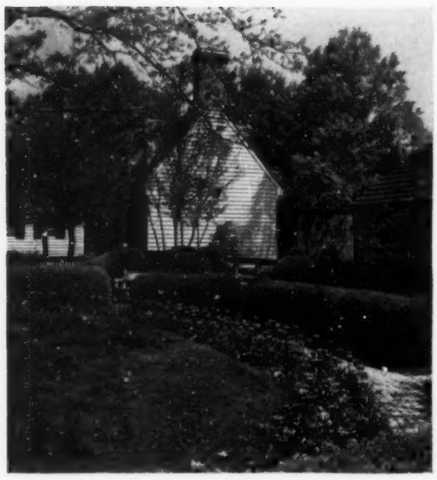
Join the A.V.S.

• If you are an African violet fancier and would like to enjoy the benefits of membership in the African Violet Society of America, you may write for a membership application blank to treasurer Myrtle Radtke, P.O. Box 116, Madisonville Station, Cincinnati 27, Ohio.

The $3.00 annual dues entitle you to take part in all Society functions; to receive the "African Violet Magazine" and the annual Members' Handbook, which includes a list of members arranged by cities and states; to join the Homing Pigeon Department, a correspondence group; to receive help on African violet problems; and to make full use of the Society's official variety registration records.

Williamsburg Garden Symposium

A 1954 gardeners' get-together for talks and tours



Tulip-time in a Williamsburg garden

GARDEN TALKS AND TOURS—the traditional pleasures of hobby gardeners—will be the keynotes of the 1954 Williamsburg Garden Symposium. The symposium will be held in the historic Virginia city in late February under the co-sponsorship of FLOWER GROWER magazine and Colonial Williamsburg.

Consisting of two different Tuesday-through-Saturday sessions beginning February 23 and March 2, respectively, the symposium will be a get-together for gardeners who like to take time off from their own back yards to look at other people's acres, listen to the wisdom of experts and compare notes with fellow-hobbyists from all parts of the country.

The principal new feature of the 1954 program is a tour either of Virginia gardens or of a plantation on the concluding day of each session. These tours are arranged so that participants can take them in small, informal groups, en route home. And the places scheduled for visit include some of the most famous landmarks in America.

One plantation tour follows the Potomac River northward towards Washington. Participants have their choice of visiting Stratford, where Robert E. Lee was born; Wakefield, birthplace of George Washington; Gunston Hall, the beautiful 18th century home built by George Mason; or Mount Vernon. Other plantation tours lead to Fredericksburg, taking in Kenmore; and to Alexandria, including Woodlawn, George Washington's gift to his stepdaughter, Nellie Custis.

Symposium participants can also tour westward, traveling towards the Blue Ridge Mountains, to visit Thomas Jefferson's Monticello, famous for history, architecture, furnishings, gardens and for Jefferson's numerous inventions. The University of Virginia, also designed by Jefferson and built under his supervision, is another choice for the Saturday tour.

The tours offered also include one to the legendary James River plantations of Westover, Berkeley and Shirley, all some 40 miles northwest of Williamsburg. Participants who choose this tour will see striking examples of colonial

The Governor's Palace at Williamsburg

architecture and plantation gardens while following the river in the direction of Richmond. For participants who prefer to travel southward, the symposium offers a visit to the fabulous Norfolk azalea and camellia gardens.

In addition to the Saturday tour schedule, the 1954 garden symposium includes other new features. Each session begins on Tuesday evening with an informal reception for participants and speakers. Special evening programs on flower arranging, including talks, demonstrations and film and slide showings, are scheduled daily.

Held each year since 1948, the garden symposium is conducted as an educational activity by Colonial Williamsburg, the organization restoring the historic, old city to its 18th century appearance. Each session presents morning and evening programs of illustrated talks by top landscape and horticulture experts. Afternoons are devoted to guided tours of Williamsburg's 75 acres of restored 18th century gardens, which gardeners view both as living records of the past and sources of ideas for today. In the late afternoon, participants and experts meet for a series of informal group discussions. Additional receptions, teas, film showings and 18th century entertainments are also on the program.

Talks and discussions at the 1954 symposium cover such diverse subjects as new gardening and landscape trends, new discoveries in maintenance and new and old plant favorites. Luncheons for garden club members and special discussions on problems and programs of local garden clubs are also scheduled. ▶

All-America Camellias

• The testing program of the All-America Camellia Selections is well under way. At the present time there are three test gardens with nine judges on the Pacific Coast and four gardens in the South and Southeast with 12 judges—a total of seven gardens and 21 judges.

The first trials began in the fall of 1952 and will be completed by the spring of 1955, after which the variety or varieties selected as winners will be announced. Under the program, entirely new varieties are scored point by point by the judges many times during the three years of testing.

At a meeting of the trustees this summer, the following officers were elected: president, Herbert C. Swim, Ontario, California; vice-president, C. Elwood Stephens, Semmes, Alabama; secretary-treasurer, David Cook, San Fernando, California. Directors elected were: C. Norwood Hastie, Charleston, South Carolina; Martin Usrey, Montebello, California; and E. B. Arnesen, San Fernando, California.

FLOWER GROWER'S

Gardener Indoors

A SECTION DEVOTED TO HOUSE PLANTS, FLOWER ARRANGING, WINDOW GARDENS, GREENHOUSE GARDENING

want to know about

SAM CALDWELL

It may have been Amaryllis rutila which tempted the author to make a hobby of these aristocrats.

Our grandmothers grew pots of amaryllis and their grandmothers before them. Sometimes, even the grandfathers did. It is so ancient a custom that one may wonder which was the original pot plant, an amaryllis or a geranium. But they have not always been common.

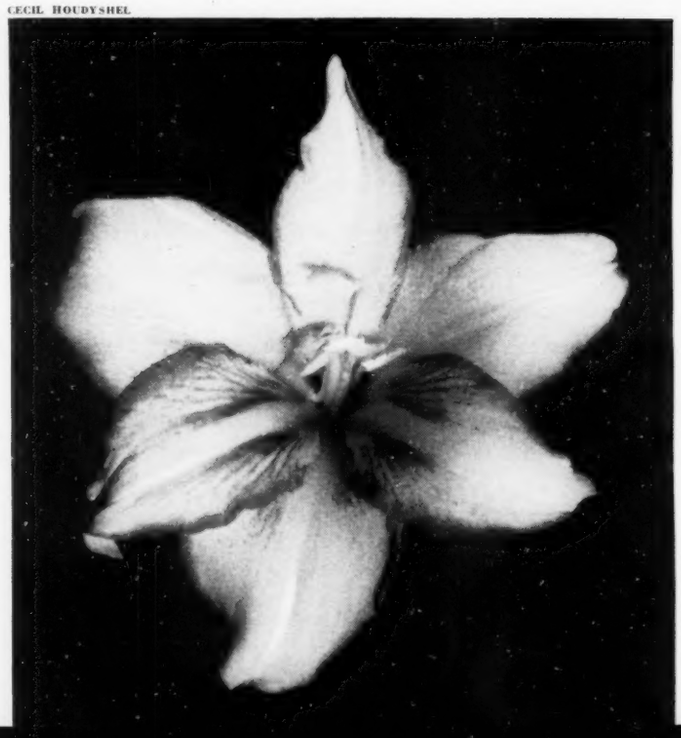
The first amaryllis I ever saw was probably Amaryllis rutila. Later, I answered an advertisement in my mother's Park's Floral Magazine and acquired an A. johnsoni. It grew and flowered, and from that day to this I have never been without an amaryllis, a period of about 55 years.

Two or three years later, when I was a student at Kansas University, the horizon of my interest was enlarged from amaryllis to amaryllids. My paleontology professor, Dr. Samuel Williston, was the most brilliant and versatile man I have ever known. He was head of the Medical School at Kansas and had been formerly in the same position at Yale, was later at Stanford. He was a noted anatomist, a botanist, a linguist and a scholar. When he learned of my interest in bulbs and other plants, he invited me to visit his garden. There he gave me a Crinum moorei. Some ten years later C. moorei became the pollen parent of C. Cecil Houdyshel.

Many of the plants Linnaeus placed in the genus Amaryllis have since been excluded. He included certain zephyranthes, nerines, crinums, etc. This process of elimination has continued up to the publication of "Amaryllidaceae: Tribe Amarylleae," by Traub and Moldenke, in 1949.

In 1936, William Herbert, an English clergyman, [SEE PAGE 35]

CECIL HOUDYSHEL



J. J. McCANN

◀ From Luther Burbank's garden came bulbs that produced Amaryllis Sibyl Houdyshel.

Amaryllis?

by CECIL HOUDYSHEL

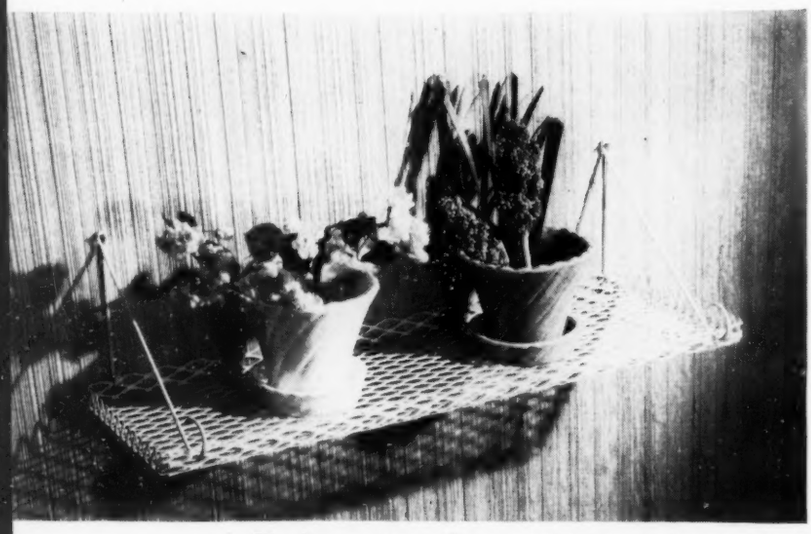
Open faces and broad petals characterize the gorgeous blooms of modern amaryllis hybrids. They will steal the spotlight either in a southern garden or in a northern window.

Double blossoms and other novelties help convince hybridists and hobbyists that amaryllis still have vast, varied potentialities.

SAM CALDWELL

This handmade bamboo cart will handsomely house a foliage plant and make it socially acceptable atop a table or the TV. Plastic pot removes for easy watering.

haven for



Here's a pretty and snug winter berth for a pair of plants. The shelf is wrought of sturdy steel painted white to lend a lacelike effect. Length: about 2 feet.

Attractive solution to the winter housing problem for that most popular (and numerous) of house plants. African violets. The revolving tiers of this plywood "susan" simplify job of turning plants to the light.

Enameled window shelf, left, will "stretch" any window sill to amply accommodate several husky plants. Self-attaching, it fastens to the sill simply by placing the flange between sill and window.

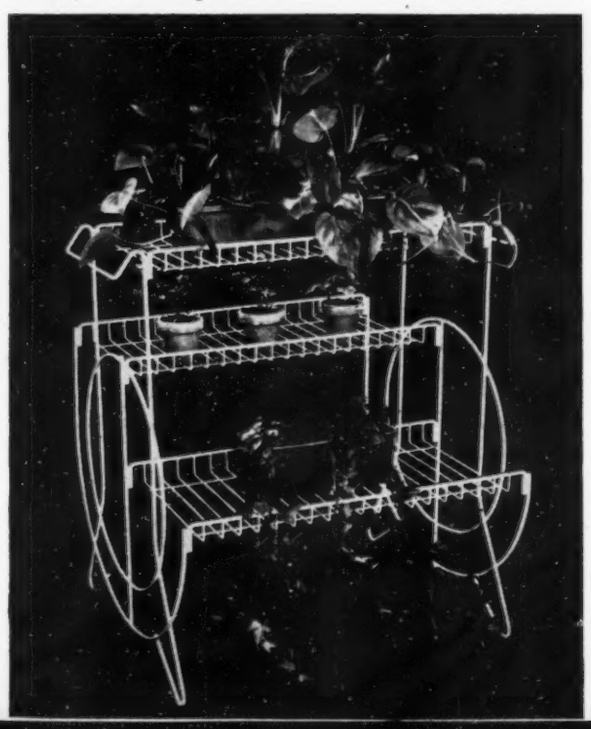
Shaped to fit on window sills, mantels or shelves, this oval planter weds utility to good looks. It is made of firwood and lined with plastic. Could also be filled with water to receive bright leaves and berries, fruits, holly in season.

r house plants

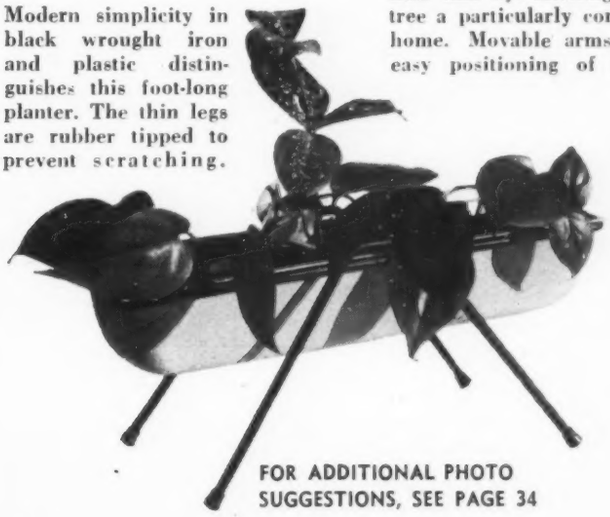
The tang in the air crisply tells us that the time has come to bring our house plants in from patio, terrace and doorstep to a winter haven indoors. Where to put them. One look at our fresh-faced progeny, alarmingly robust from their summer vacation, and then at our suddenly shrunken window sills informs us that new plans must be made. Pictured here and on page 34 are some original and well-considered suggestions. Ones which not only will create new space for your winter window garden but will add beauty and time-saving convenience as well.
Sources of planters will be sent upon request.

Showoff African violets will find this eye-catching plant tree a particularly congenial home. Movable arms allow easy positioning of plants.

Six square feet of shelf space are provided by this artistically designed table, with each shelf offset to give head room to tall plants. Material: white-enameled steel.



Modern simplicity in black wrought iron and plastic distinguishes this foot-long planter. The thin legs are rubber tipped to prevent scratching.



FOR ADDITIONAL PHOTO SUGGESTIONS, SEE PAGE 34

BLACK MAGIC AND YOUR HOUSE PLANTS

by Betty Barnes

AFRICAN VIOLETS AND GLOXINIAS

To insure sturdy growth and healthy, blooming African Violets, be sure that they are planted in Black Magic African Violet Mix and fed regularly with Blossom Booster. Then follow these other principles:

A temperature of 70-75° is best with only a 10° drop at night. Give them strong light, with filtered sunlight during the warmest hours. Use room temperature water; keep the mix uniformly moist, not soggy. Water only when the surface of the mix is dry to the touch.

Black Magic African Violet Mix is perfectly aerated throughout, add nothing but water to the 8-ingredient mix and you'll find it's the ideal planting medium for Violets and **all** blooming house plants.

The African Violet has a "country cousin" who is going to town! From a Brazilian beginning, the glamorous Gloxinia traveled to England and Scotland where new strains were developed. Now, thanks to patient hybridizers of our country, we can select Gloxinias with bell-shaped flowers and unusual leaves which are as varied as the blooms themselves. You'll enjoy Peggie Schulz's book, "Gloxinias—And How to Grow Them"; non-technical writing by a housewife whose experiences are the same as yours.

Keep these plants blooming longer with a regular feeding of Blossom Booster; the liquid fertilizer that **safely** promotes blossoms and feeds the roots, stems and leaves.

If your dealer is not supplied send for our mail order list.

***FREE!** Send stamped self-addressed envelope for pamphlet on Black Magic and house plants.*

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House Plant Haven

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33]

This three-decker house plant haven boasts not only spaciousness but built-in sunlight to keep its boarders happy even in dim corners. Damp sphagnum moss goes in trays to supply humidity. African violets (which definitely approve of fluorescent lighting) will respond gratefully. Unit's also useful for propagating and forcing.

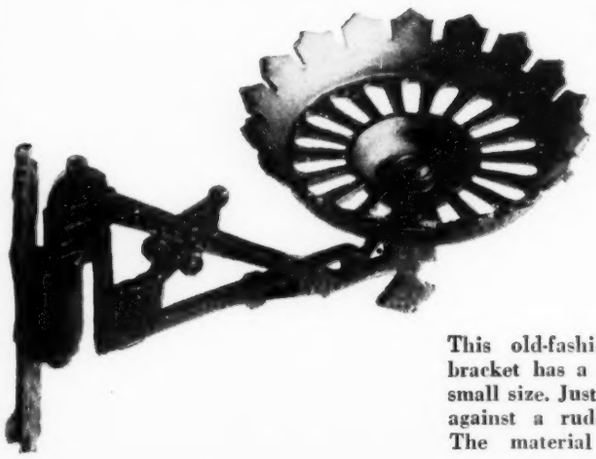
▼

▲

Here, a spun-aluminum floor lamp offers ideal winter quarters to plants. Watering can be conveniently done simply by filling the revolving trays. And the electric light supplements scarce sunlight.

▲

House plant home reduced to lowest common denominator—a one-piece tray. Made of aluminum, it rests on brackets screwed to sill and it, together with the plants, can be moved very readily.



This old-fashioned jet-black plant bracket has a charm that belies its small size. Just picture it trailing ivy against a ruddy, knotty-pine wall. The material is cast aluminum.

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Send for special Xmas floral design and corsage lesson. 20 real photos, 18 reproductions, dozens of drawings.

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Want to Know Amaryllis?

[FROM PAGE 31] in his book "Amaryllidaceae," reorganized the genus amaryllis and placed those always popularly known as amaryllis in the genus hippeastrum. This classification was continued by Baker in 1888, in his "Handbook of the Amaryllidaceae."

In this article, the more recent classification by Traub and Moldenke is followed. It is probably as nearly perfect as science can at present determine, and has been accepted by "Gentes Herbarum" of Cornell University. We can now forget the word hippeastrum. Our amaryllis are botanically as well as popularly to be known henceforth as amaryllis; but we must exclude the following from this reorganized genus:

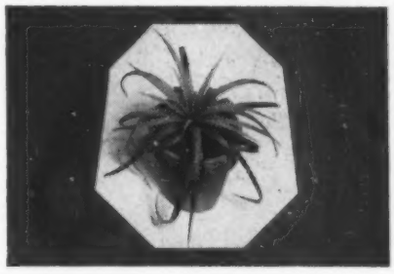
The "Belladonna lilies," so long known as Amaryllis belladonna, are now Brunsvigia rosea, B. multiflora, etc. They never were very close to the true amaryllis. Habranthus are given generic standing. They are not amaryllis, nor is Sprekelia formosissima. Catalogues sometimes list these as amaryllis.

We receive many inquiries about the "blue amaryllis," long called A. procera or H. procerum by botanists. This bulb does not properly belong in the genus and has been given a new classification. It is now Worsleya rayneri. It is not an amaryllis, only a close relative. It is not blue, but lilac. It is endemic to one Brazilian mountain, has been found in no other place and apparently will grow in no other place. Only a very few expert growers have been able to keep it alive for more than a brief period. They, too, finally lose it. The bulb is expensive. Don't waste your money and effort.

That leaves plenty of amaryllis worthy of cultivation or valuable in breeding. Some of the most important species are described here.

AMARYLLIS AMBIGUA is believed to be a natural hybrid, growing wild in northern South America. Since the cross of A. elegans (formerly solandriflora) and A. vittata produces plants exactly like the wild A. ambigua, it must be that nature preceded man's effort to make the cross. Ambigua blooms a little later than the hybrids. The scapes are very tall, and 100 of them in a bed will all stand erect at about the same height. Five to seven long, tubular, lily-shaped flowers are in each scape. The color is white with dotted lines of pink; the fragrance is exquisite. A bed of 100 is worth walking a mile to see and ten miles to smell.

Very closely related to A. ambigua and A. elegans is A. IMMACULATA, formerly known as candida. Both specific names indicate that the color is white. Like the others of the group, the flowers are lily-shaped or tubular. Those of immaculata are immense, and so is the



Rare Silver Stars a "heavenly gift"

This new, rare tropical plant, the **Dyckia Fosteriana**, requires little care, has spectacular appearance: metallic green leaves turn to shimmering silver as plant matures, sends out orange blooming spike. Perfect for planters, can stand down to freezing temperatures.

4" pot size
$1.95

Write for literature on other rare tropical plants picked, packed and priced to please the discriminating flower grower.

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Amaryllis

It is time to order your Amaryllis, as this is the grower's digging time. You are more likely to receive fresh dug bulbs with living roots.

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plant itself in all its parts. In fact, the bulbs will grow to a diameter of 5 or 6 inches and a weight of 5 pounds or more.

Both A. ambigua and A. immaculata are obtainable from American growers. Their close relative, A. elegans, is not listed in American catalogues.

Another giant amaryllis, though not close to A. immaculata, is A. PSITTACINA. As the name indicates, the color of the flower is parrot-like, crimson on edges of petals with centers of parrot green and crimson lines radiating from the throat. It blooms in late fall and winter. California winters are usually too cold for perfect flowers. The species is rare in cultivation, high in price when found.

At the other end of the yardstick, A. BULMENAVIA is one of the smallest amaryllis. The largest bulbs seldom exceed ¾ inch to an inch in diameter, and the flowers are about the size of a 25-cent piece. The flowers are delicately colored, mauve crimson lines on white. A. bulmenavia should be grown only as a pot plant. I doubt if the bulbs are now obtainable anywhere.

AMARYLLIS STRIATA, VAR. FULGIDA, is now the valid name of the plant formerly called A. rutila, var. fulgida. In catalogues it is likely to be listed by the old name. It is a very nice scarlet of good form and easy to grow in pots. Bulbs should be obtainable now from American sources. Formerly, it was quite common, but the hybrids have been crowding it out.

The flower of A. LEOPOLDI is red with a white tip and green throat. The wide open flat bloom with short tube and rounded petals gives the nearest to the ideal contour of any wild amaryllis. Its introduction to commerce made possible a great improvement in the hybrids, and resulting strains are known as the leopoldi type. Unfortunately, the species

It takes top quality to win a place on this crowded bench in a Howard and Smith greenhouse. These plants will create the seed for a new generation of amaryllis.

seems to have disappeared from commerce.

Small red spots give rise to the name of A. PARDINA, meaning "female panther." The flowers are pretty and the species has given some good hybrids, but is not obtainable at present.

Oxblood lily, A. ADVENA, is more commonly grown and is better known than any other species amaryllis. It is a fall bloomer with five to eight oxblood red flowers in the umbel. There are two shades, a lighter and a darker one.

The first amaryllis hybrid ever produced was grown by Johnson in England, in 1810, according to Herbert's "Amaryllidaceae." Baker gives the date as 1799, which is probably correct. Herbert made the same cross—A. reginae x A. vittata, in 1810. This cross may have been made many times; thus, it is doubtful whether we have the descendents of the original cross as made by Johnson. This hybrid is very prolific in vegetative reproduction and has spread all over the world, wherever it is hardy. There are millions in our own South. It is an excellent plant for outside gardens, where hardy. Many are still grown in pots in the North.

Dean Herbert in "Amaryllidaceae" lists many hybrids produced by himself and others before 1836. No doubt they had an effect on amaryllis breeding and development, but none of these hybrids seem to be cultivated to the present time.

Still grown and prized, however, is the hybrid A. ACKERMANNI, raised in 1835 by Garaway from a cross between A. aulica platypetala and A. psittacina. It first bloomed in 1839, as stated by Henry Nehrling in "Die Amaryllis." This is a lovely rosy red, but with narrow petals—not "platypetala," wide petaled.

In America at the turn of this century, Luther Burbank was breeding and developing many new and excellent amaryllis. In 1910, 1911 and 1912, I was in Carson City, Nevada, and later in Virginia City, where I was Superintendent of Schools. I visited Mr. Burbank many times on trips back and forth from my Pomona, California, home, and saw all of his amaryllis for at least three seasons. They were fine—the best I had seen. I bought many amaryllis from him, and one complete clone of eighty bulbs which I named for my sister, SIBYL HOUDYSHEL.

When I returned to settle in Pomona, I bought several assorted large bulbs and about 2,000 seed from Ker's. I could not afford the named varieties, which were priced up to about 50 Pounds, equivalent then to almost $250.00 per bulb.

My Aigberth amaryllis bulbs and seed were planted in Pomona and later removed to our present Rancho de Las Flores, in La Verne, where most of

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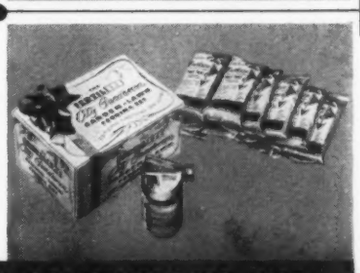

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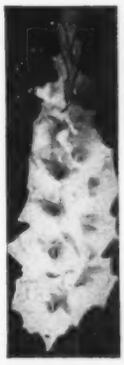

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the seedlings reached flowering size. But some were lost because of their less hardy constitution, and others were pilfered when not closely watched. They were not Ker's best, but they were the finest I had ever seen. During the depression, nearly all were lost or merged with assorted varieties. The weak constitution of leopoldi and the weaker pardina hybrids made outdoor culture in California very difficult.

We had already noted the fine hybrids being grown by Howard and Smith, and when people were again able to buy a few bulbs, we purchased stock of their strain. This Howard and Smith strain continues to the present time to be the best American strain. Their flowers show the strong influence of the leopoldi type, but breeding methods seem to eliminate its weakness, as the best flowers are selected from the field and moved to the greenhouse. Here may be seen not only Howard and Smith's best, but often the very finest from Europe, at least for pollen parents. When large enough, the resulting seedlings are planted in the field, and that eliminates all the weak ones.

Only a few of the imported leopoldi type are perfect in contour or in color, but there are a few that will excel outdoor-grown American bulbs. But such bulbs do not have the longevity of the Howard and Smith bulbs. Their strain does hold on to much of the leopoldi beauty with the hardiness and longevity of our older strains.

I have had only a few of the Nehrling-Meade strain. I understand that when these were left to posterity by that fine old horticulturist, T. L. Meade, they were fine. Now, however, they have been mostly grown for generations in the field and propagated by chance field crosses. The result is that vegetative qualities have been improved at the expense of beauty.

At the close of World War I, I believe the loss of sons led to the suspension of Ker's Aigberth Nursery. Holland grown amaryllis came to the front, and now nearly all imported amaryllis are from the Netherlands. We have had amaryllis from several Dutch firms and liked the Royal Dutch strain best, having had better success with the few we grew. Most of them are still living after several years, but, like all imported bulbs, they do not belong in the field as we grow them.

There may be other reasons why the imported leopoldi strain does not have stamina. Certainly nature does not produce weak races unless there are compensations like unusual fecundity. They may not fit all climates and conditions, but they must fit their own habitat if they survive. Leopoldi is from the Andes in Peru, probably the eastern slope. The southeast trade winds make the climate

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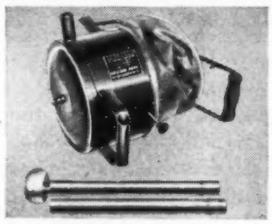

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very humid, and the region is tropical. That does not produce plants suitable for culture here, but can fit the artificial climate of greenhouses. I have the feeling also that Dutch growers may dig too early. Very likely the soils of leopoldi's habitat are quite acid, since there are volcanoes in the Andes. The Dutch probably use more peat in the soil than we do. This is mostly assumption, but I have made one test.

Several times bulbs have been sent to me because they could not be made to grow. I potted such bulbs in pure sphagnum, more acid than peat. They grew at once. My experiments were too few to be conclusive. Others should try it. Many United States soils are neutral to alkaline, and they are improved for most amaryllis by the addition of peat. A warm temperature and a high humidity are indicated for the leopoldi hybrids.

American strains can be permanently planted outside in the deep South, with an inch or two of soil over the top of the bulbs. In Oklahoma, they should be covered by 4 inches of soil and heavily mulched after the first frost cuts down the foliage. Their northern range can be extended a little by planting the hardier, but not the highly bred, strains —large bulbs of those that make strong growth.

Do not plant amaryllis where they must compete with the roots of trees, shrubs or large plants. They like a little shade, but not shade of other plants. They need to be irrigated often—here, about every five days. They require a rich, sandy soil and frequent applications of fertilizer. The best way is to mulch several times with manure each season. This is also a good treatment for pot bulbs.

In pots, amaryllis bulbs that are 2½ inches in diameter should have 6-inch pots. A bulb over 3 inches in diameter needs a 7-inch pot. Clean the base of the bulb, but do not scrape. Do not remove any living roots, but carefully save even the shortest. Rich sandy loam to which leafmold and some peat have been added is the best soil. Add a rounded tablespoonful of bonemeal per pot and thoroughly mix the soil. The incorporation of some coarse sand will improve drainage.

Bulbs are set so that the neck and ¼ of the bulb are above the soil surface. Water well once, but keep only slightly moist until growth starts. At this time a temperature of 50° is about right. If soil surface is mulched with sphagnum, the amaryllis may need no more, or very little, until a few weeks later when they are moved to a slightly shaded place in the house or greenhouse, at about 60°. If shaded a little, the flowers will be better. Feed them liberally as long as they are growing and keep them growing for at least five months.▶

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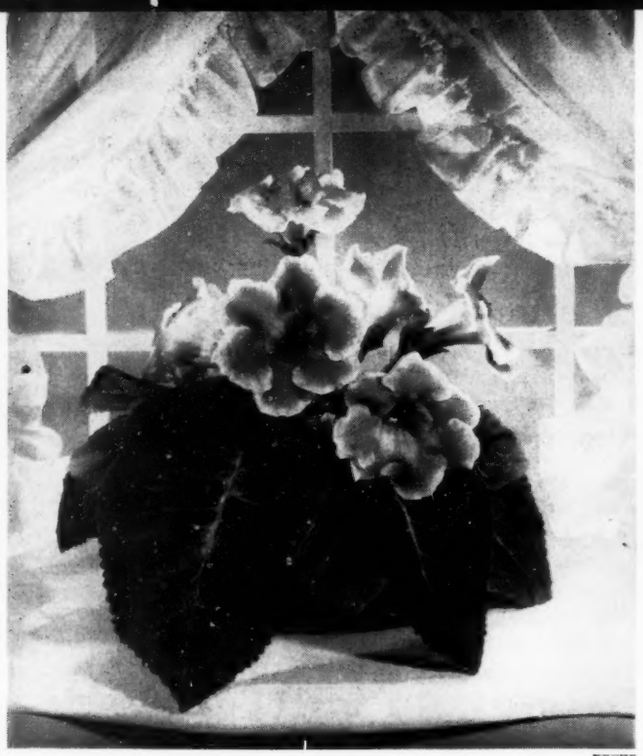
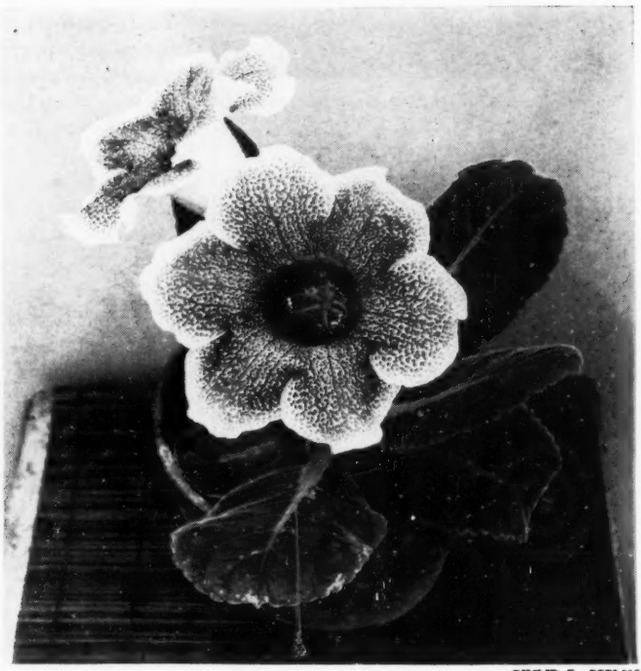


BACHE

Cosily situated behind curtains of a sunny window, this magnificent Buell gloxinia is all set for the cold weather ahead.



PHILIP G. CORLISS

Antonelli gloxinia opens huge blooms at an early age. The young plant above will eventually produce 20 to 30 flowers.

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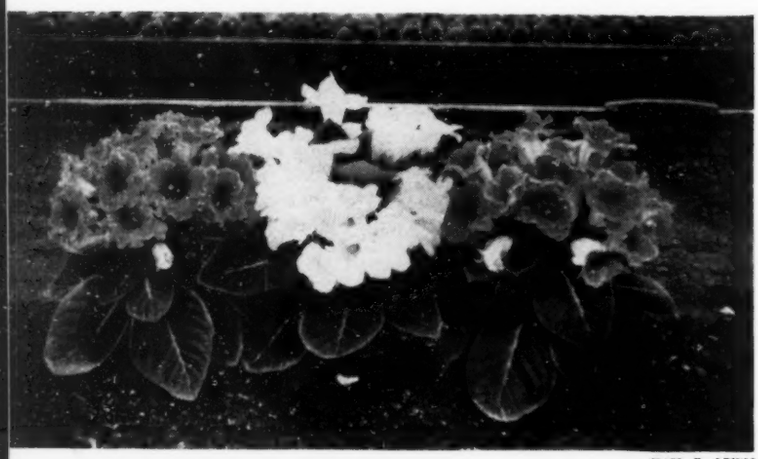
FEW IF ANY flowering plants surpass the beauty of a gloxinia. The large, erect, bell-shaped flowers have a richness and variety of color that make them superb. Even the foliage is magnificent—large green leaves with a soft furry texture, beautifully formed and well placed on the plant.

When in full flower, these hybrid gloxinias are especially enjoyable in the home. They add colors to a room, ranging from blues and purples, through pinks and crimsons to pure white. Some of the hybrids with tinted edges and dark spots on lighter background bring pleasing variety to a window garden display. In fact, the gloxinias are definitely an asset in any home.



KARL E. LEWIS

New strain from Germany shows off latest style in gloxinias: an abundance of bright blooms on well-formed, compact plants.

The gloxinia as we know it today little resembles the original found by L'Heritier in 1785 in Brazil. The earliest written word to be found about these plants is an article written in 1785 by P. B. Gloxin, whose name they carry. The original gloxinia had small flowers which hung down and small, practically stemless foliage—far less showy in every way than our present-day hybrids.

From such unspectacular beginnings have come the outstanding house plants grown all over the world today. Breeders in this country and abroad have crossed and recrossed the species and their descendents to produce larger, more colorful and better formed blooms. Even the foliage shows the mark of the hybridists' improvements.

Gloxinias purchased from the florist are finished, full-grown plants with a few flowers and many buds on them. A little simple care will assure enjoyment for several weeks. They should be placed in a warm room where they get as much light as possible. Direct sunlight, however, needs to be avoided.

Gloxinias ought to be thoroughly watered at frequent intervals, since they must never become dry. A good way to accomplish this is to place the pots of gloxinias in a pan of water, with the water level coming about half way up the pot. Let them stand for about half an hour, or until the surface of the soil is damp, then remove them. Never allow them to sit in water for any length of time, for an excess moisture will rot the roots and destroy the plant.

After all the flowers have opened and died [SEE PAGE 42]

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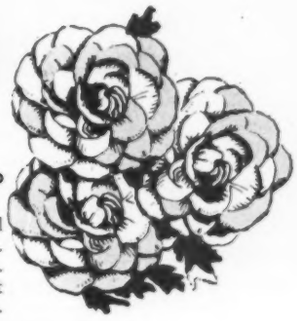

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See article, page 40

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[FROM PAGE 40] it is time for the plant to rest. Hybrid gloxinias require a dormant period of about two months. Just stop watering them and set them in a cool, dry place, at about 40°.

At the end of six to eight weeks, the tubers may be repotted in the same pot, but in fresh, sterilized soil consisting of about one-half part leafmold or peat and one-half soil or compost. They will grow and bloom again under the same care given before. In this way tubers can be kept for many years.

Ever-increasing numbers of home gardeners are discovering the fun of growing their own house plants. For a first try with gloxinias it would be wise to purchase 2¼-inch plants already started. These plants should not be put back into small pots, since they like plenty of room to grow. Pot them up immediately into 5-inch azalea pots; that is, clay pots 5 inches in diameter (inside measurement) and about 3¾ inches deep. Or, a self-watering pot may be obtained from the local florist. Do not use a glazed or painted pot. Air and moisture, which are necessary for good root growth of any plant, move through a clay pot, but not through the others. Gloxinias should be potted in a loose, soft soil, with good drainage. An ideal mixture would be one-half part leafmold or peat and one-half part sandy loam or soft compost. Clay soil is not suitable.

The growing medium should be sterilized before it is used. Place some of the mixture in a pan or dish, then put it in a pressure cooker with about one-half inch of water in the bottom and let it steam for approximately 15 minutes. Soil for house plants should not be sterilized by baking in the oven, since oven heat dries out the soil and burns the humus, making the mixture unfit for good plant growth.

If sterilizing is too much trouble, several of the African violet soils on the market today are already sterilized. Mixed with peat, about half and half, they make a good growing medium for the gloxinias. Be sure to check the label on the package of soil to see that it is sterilized. Sterilized soil eliminates the danger of virus diseases and root insects getting into the gloxinias.

Actually, plants that are clean and free from insects when purchased should require no insect or disease control during the flowering period. If the little green aphis should appear on the plants they are easily killed with a nicotine spray or by using the sodium selinate capsules, which are available in feed and variety stores. If it is necessary to use the sodium selinate capsules, be sure to read the directions and do exactly as they say. This is a highly poisonous substance and an overdose is toxic to plants.

After the small gloxinia plants are

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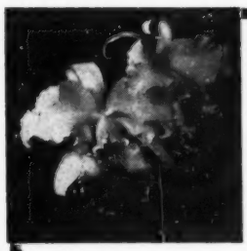

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ROCHE

One formula for gloxinias is half peatmoss and half sandy loam, with pebbles or broken crock and an inch of charcoal in the bottom. Give them room to grow.

potted in the proper soil, they need proper light, proper temperature and proper moisture. With these three factors under control, you should be able to grow just as beautiful gloxinias as can be purchased from the local florist.

First, let's consider light. During summer months, which, incidentally, is the time of year the gloxinias grow fastest and flower best, it is necessary for them to have as much light as possible without any direct sunlight. They will tolerate about 2,000 foot-candles of light, providing the soil has a high moisture content and the humidity around the plant is high.

If the plants get dry and the humidity is too low, the sunlight will both bleach and burn the foliage. To be on the safe side, I suggest putting the plants in a window and using a venetian blind or some other method of shading them from the direct rays of the sun. Under such conditions the plants will grow compact and symmetrical and produce a maximum number of flowers.

In the wintertime, particularly from Dec. 31 to Feb. 28, gloxinias will tolerate full sunlight and be the better for it. While they take a little longer to grow, form buds and flower at that time of year, still, the plants will be just as good as those grown during the summer—always providing they have the right conditions.

As for temperature—coming originally from the hot, humid areas of Brazil, gloxinias are definitely warm weather plants. They grow best, summer or winter, with a minimum night temperature of 70° and a high day temperature of 80° to 90°, or even warmer—again, providing the soil has the right moisture content and the humidity is correct.

A warning—in the wintertime, even a bright sunny window may be too cold for a gloxinia plant because of the poor insulation qualities of the glass. An ideal spot during the cold months is a south window with a radiator under it, which gives plenty of heat and plenty of light.

The third factor to consider is mois-

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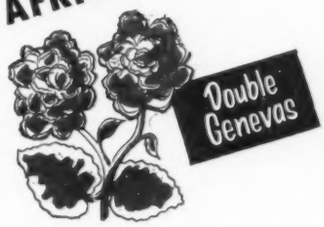

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September 1953 Issue—Page 45
October 1953 Issue—Page 43

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Take-Hold Plus PLANT FOOD PLUS HORMONE

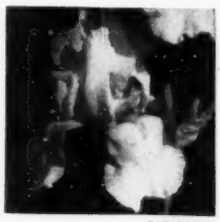
ture. Gloxinias like lots of water and a fairly high humidity, because of their large leaf surfaces which constantly transpire water into the air. They should be watered often and thoroughly, but must not stand in water, so give the small plants the same treatment as is described above for the adult gloxinia.

Although these tropical plants do like high humidity, they also like movement of air. This may sound like an impossible combination, but it is not too difficult to achieve. If there is moisture below the gloxinia, the humidity will be high enough, while moving air will keep humidity from settling around plant.

An excellent way to accomplish this, particularly in the winter, is to place a galvanized tray about 3 inches deep on the radiator under that south window. About an inch of pea gravel and an inch of sand are put in this container and the gloxinias set on top of that. Then the water in the pan is maintained at the level of the pea gravel—just below the sand. To keep track of the water level, a 2¼-inch pot with a hole in the bottom may be sunk in the sand and gravel at one end of the tray. The water height can be gauged from that pot and water added by pouring it into the pot. As it evaporates from the sand it rises with the warm air, passes around the gloxinia and keeps on moving around the room. High humidity plus air circulation.

An indication of the increasing popularity of this beautiful house plant is the American Gloxinia Society. Started in 1951, it is fast growing into a large organization spread across the country. Members of this society issue a bimonthly magazine called The Gloxinian; reading a copy convinced me that the gloxinia will soon be found in as many homes as the African violet. And rightly so. What could add more to a modern home than a well grown gloxinia with its beautiful foliage and 20 to 30 magnificent flowers, all open at once?▶

Dykes Medal Winner


CASSEBEER

• The Awards Committee of the American Iris Society has announced in their preliminary report that the Dykes Medal, top American iris honor, was awarded to Truly Yours, a large ruffled creamy white trimmed in gold. It is an origination of Orville Fay.

Award of Merit winners for 1953 are: Mary Randall, Ballerina, Thotmes III, Cloud Cap, Solid Gold, Gold Sovereign, Port Wine, Tranquility, Northwestern, Maytime, Prospector and Ebony Echo.

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Babiana stricta, one of the many exotic plants in the iris family, bears 6 to 8 red or purple blooms, grows foot high.

One of the many charming ixia hybrids, which come in a wide variety of soft colors and make excellent pot plants.

DRAWINGS FROM "HOW TO GROW RARE GREENHOUSE PLANTS" BY ERNEST CHABOT

Home Greenhouse

by ERNEST CHABOT

The iris family includes a number of fascinating members well worth growing under glass. Whenever there is room, we like to have some Wedgwood, White Excelsior and Golden Harvest for cutting. These should be planted now for flowering from midwinter on. The blooms give a delicate touch of color to mixed bouquets, and are especially effective with daffodils, tulips, and snapdragons.

We usually plant our bulbous iris in deep clay bulb pans, but they would occupy less room in 4-inch-deep flats. The bulbs are planted in rows about 3 inches apart both ways, about 1 inch below the surface of the soil.

After a thorough watering, they may be stored in the coldframe until late November to form roots. When they are brought into the greenhouse, a night temperature of 50° to 55° is about right, but for later flowering, they do better grown cooler, at 45° to 50°.

This same treatment would also be right for ixias, which are available in a wide range of delicate colors—from white to pink, red, lilac and yellow. The corms are smaller than bulbous iris and should be planted about 2 inches apart. Hybrids, which are available from many suppliers, are usually grown, but you will particularly like Ixia viridiflora. This species has a most unusual pale green flower with a black throat.

Another iris that has become popular for the greenhouse is I. reticulata. Its large, red-purple flowers on 6-inch stems make a showy, compact pot plant when the bulbs are set about an inch apart. The bulbs are hardy and should be treated the same as tulips and daffodils.

In addition to the usual "florists' kind," the iris family includes many

Ferraria undulata, a South African dwarf, brings odd flower coloring into the greenhouse with its blooms of green and brown.

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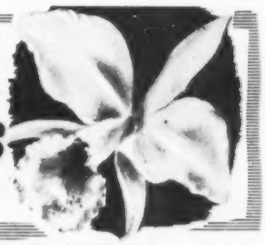

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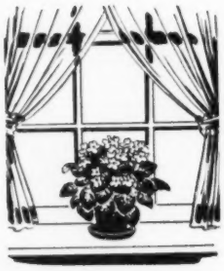

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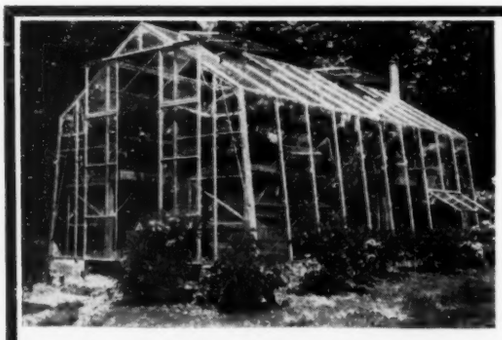

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other fascinating members worth growing in the greenhouse. Among them are evergreen types that bloom from year to year, as well as others requiring a resting period just as bulbous types do.

Most of these iris are propagated in fall by division of root stock or offsets from bulbs, so that a supply can be self-perpetuated from year to year.

We have particularly enjoyed a number of the oddities for their unusual form and growing habits. Following are brief descriptions of some of these. Root stock or bulbs for most are available at this season.

Two moreaea iris, M. edulis, with its long, wiry solitary leaves and lilac flowers spotted yellow, and M. ramosissima, with its clusters of bright yellow flowers that last for weeks, are most intriguing.

Cypella herberti bears yellow flowers about 3 inches across above plaited leaves. Like the blooms of the other plants in this group, these flowers last only a day but keep coming over a long period of time if the buds are left intact. There is also a blue variety, C. plumbea, but I have not seen it.

Ferraria undulata is an unusual dwarf from South Africa. It is similar to tigridia but much better suited to the greenhouse. It has large green and brown flowers, which are very exotic.

Iris susiana, the most beautiful of all, has a tremendous bloom of silvery gray marked with deep veins of purple-black. The bulbs are rather expensive but well worth the price. When dormant, they must be kept bone dry. Mine usually dry-rot after one season, but I still consider them well worth the price.

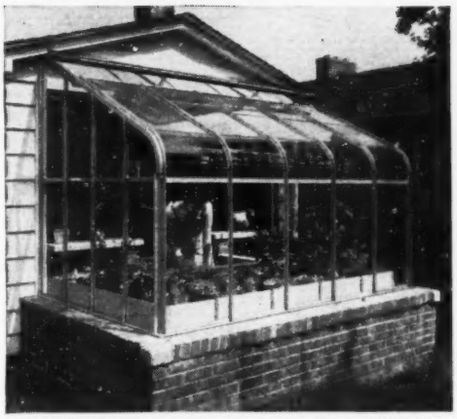
Then there are also Iris bucharica, which has 5 to 7 bright yellow flowers on a wavy crest about 1 foot high; Schizostylis coccinea, with 10 to 14 bright scarlet flowers on 18-inch stems; babiana, a small plant with 6 to 8 red-lilac or purple flowers; and many more that I have never grown or seen.▶

Winterize Your Garden

[FROM PAGE 25] roots much later than otherwise. Since the soft soil attracts hungry field mice the practice is not advisable except where late planting makes it necessary.

Roots of deciduous trees and bulbs hardy in your area need protection only when newly planted. Then, a mulch keeps the moisture in the soil to prolong the fall season during which new root growth can develop.

A drying out which would easily be survived by a deciduous plant during its dormant period may kill an evergreen, which transpires water throughout the winter. While the ground is frozen,



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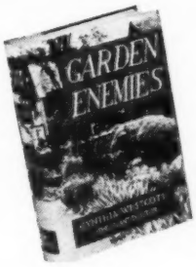

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roots are limited to moisture already in the soil. A permanent mulch on the surface around each plant is beneficial, and should be replenished each fall. Before hard freezing, the ground should be soaked deeply several times, to insure a reserve water supply.

Evergreens exposed to drying winds and direct sunlight may need to be shaded by artificial means. Burlap-covered frames are often set up with this aim in view. Laths nailed one inch apart to a supporting frame are also useful. Large baskets may be set bottoms up over small plants.

The foliage of evergreens occasions another difficulty; it often catches enough snow along extended branches to break them. Strong twine wound around the tree, holding the branches close to the trunk, will prevent such damage.

Bush roses are usually protected by piling garden soil 6 to 12 inches high around their stems. In colder areas, the spaces between plants are filled with strawy manure or compost and the bed then covered with a one-foot layer of leaves, straw or similar material.

Wood of rose bushes rarely kills back below the point reached by the piled-up soil. In the spring, dead wood is cut out and stems chosen for development are cut back to selected buds. This method produces low-growing plants. If taller roses are desired, the roots of a plant may be loosened on one side and the plant bent down to the ground, where the stems are covered heavily with soil.

Climbing rambler roses are usually hardy without protection, but the canes may be laid on the ground and covered with soil, straw or evergreen boughs, after the old canes are pruned out.

Winter protection in rock gardens, where true rock plants rather than a miscellaneous assembly are grown, requires great care. No heavy mulching materials such as manure, dead leaves, peatmoss, etc., should be spread over the plants, since the remedy is apt to cause more trouble than the weather. Evergreen boughs, glass wool, excelsior and other materials that let in air and light are the solution, especially for plants that retain green top growth over winter. These provide shade from winter sun and reduce frost heaving and puddles resulting from warm weather. Beware of coverings that harbor field mice, though.

A vital point in all winter protection is good surface drainage for the whole garden—lawns as well as borders. Standing water during winter thaws is always a hazard to plants. Thus, it is important to provide low places where such water naturally collects, with means of draining it away. Even though it may mean digging temporary drainage ditches in some cases, avoiding those icy puddles around prized plantings is of primary importance to next year's garden.▶

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Questions and Answers

Nonblooming Hydrangea

I have a hydrangea which is supposed to bloom in June. Each year it is filled with buds but they never mature. What could cause this?—MRS. A. HAYES *(N. Y.)*

It is possible that your hydrangea is not completely hardy in your section and the buds become winter injured. After the first few frosts have defoliated the plant, try protecting it by drawing the stems together and covering the tops.

Phlox Disease

Each year my phlox seem to be attacked with the same disease. The lower leaves first turn yellow, then get crisp and brown. This travels all the way up the stem. What can I do for it?—VIRGINIA B. WOIDA *(Ill.)*

Your phlox are infected with leaf blight, for which there is no known cure. It is more prevalent in a wet spring. Clean culture may help check the disease. Rake up and burn all infected leaves and shoots and make sure the plants are not crowded and there is good air circulation around them.

Dwarf Apples

The trunks of two of my dwarf apple trees were accidentally covered with soil and now roots have grown out of the top or scion portion. I would like to keep the trees dwarfed. What can I do?—MRS. A. T. MARCONE *(Conn.)*

To keep the dwarf apples from getting out of bounds, clear away the soil from around the base of the stem and sever all roots that started above the graft. Also, trim the roots of the tree proper by driving a sharp spade into the ground at the outer edge of the root spread. This will check top growth.

Maple Borer

Last summer the bark on one of my maple trees started to come loose from the trunk. It peeled off in sections about 6 feet long and one-quarter the circumference of the trunk. It is still living but I would like to save it. What can I do?—MRS. ALMA VANDIVER *(Mo.)*

The reason for the bark's coming off your maple is probably the maple borer, an insect which works under the bark. You would do well to consult an arborist or other professional tree person for control as only an examination of the tree itself could lead to control.

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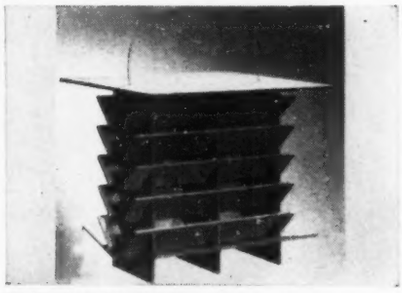

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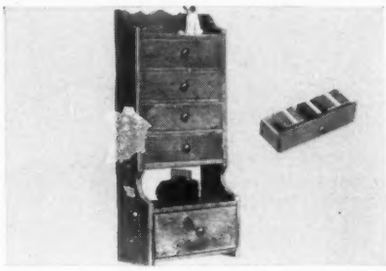

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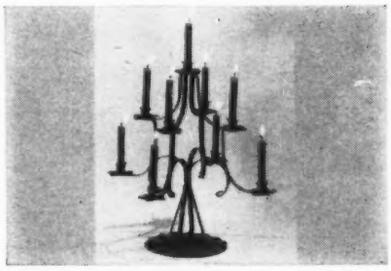

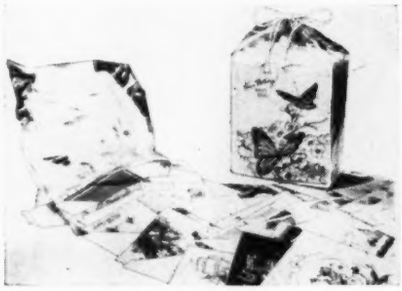

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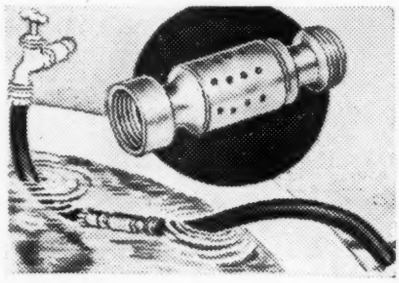
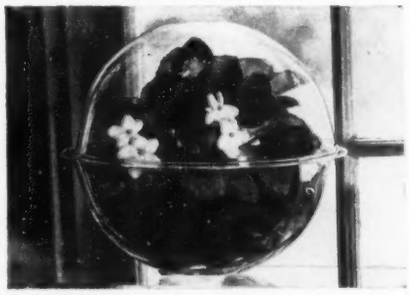


Suct-Dri

Without electricity or moving parts this suction drainer pumps 300 gallons of water per minute from flooded cellars, pools, trenches, etc. Just attach with a garden hose to any screw-type faucet, attach another section of hose to the discharge end, turn on the water and it goes to work. Solid brass, non-rusting. $3.95 postpaid. Write for free Xmas novelty catalog. Novelty Mart, FG-11, 59 East 8th St., New York.



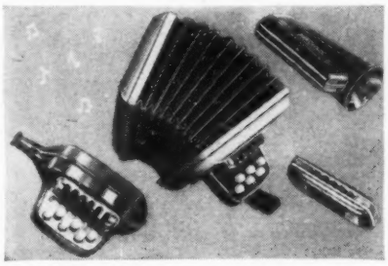
Inexpensive Greenhouses

For indoors or out! Clear nine-inch diameter plastic protects from airborne diseases, light frost, hail. Two placed together form attractive modern display for houseplants. Ideal for growing or increasing African violets and other plants. Admits ultra-violet rays. Washable. Unconditionally guaranteed. Full instructions supplied. New low price—Six for $2.50 ppd. Plasti-Plant Hood Co., Box 93B, Elmhurst, 73, N. Y.

Flea-No-Mat Protects Children

For years thousands of owners have used famous *Flea-No-Mat* to rid pets of fleas, ticks, nits. Now *improved*, with *new* pleasant, clean odor. Counteracts animal smells. Flea-No-Mat is a chemically treated mat for use on your pet's regular bed or separately. Kennel-tested by veterinarian. Only $2.95 ppd. for 15" x 28" mat; $4.95 for 28" x 36". Money back guarantee. V. F. Garrett Co., P. O. Box 1143-50, Dallas, Texas.

ALSTORE *with Erna W. Cass*

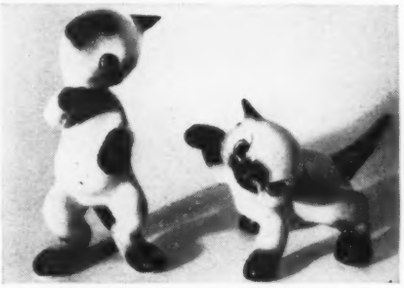


MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS . . .

For the would-be band leader in the family these four musical instruments will start him off with a band of his own. These "musicians" won't need to know how to read notes, they just follow the simple numbers way. All 4 instruments, complete with instruction and song booklets in a colorful carrying case, $2.98 postpaid. Novelty Mart, FG-11, 59 East 8th St., New York 3.

MAKE IT GLITTER . . .

With an adhesive-filled Polarfoam "pen" and sparkling glitter you can make your own greeting cards, decorate gift packages, inexpensive tree ornaments, Christmas stockings, candles, ribbons, etc. Just write, trace or draw with "pen" and sprinkle on any one of 6 colored crystals including gold and silver. It dries in a matter of minutes. Pour off excess crystals and reuse. $1.00 postpaid. O. E. Linck Co., FG-11, Dept. 28, Clifton, N. J.

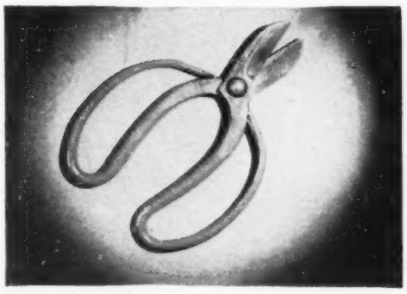


Boxing Siamese Kittens

Hand decorated authentic miniatures from California! Prize pair for collectors, a "must" for any collection. Ideal gifts for anyone, especially animal lovers. Exquisitely colored, these kittens are 3½ and 2½" high. Postpaid: pair, $2.00 (Add 3% sales tax in Cal.). Send for free catalog of other hand decorated animal miniatures and unusual gift items. Standard Arts Company, Dept. X. 1805 Grove St., Berkeley, Calif.

12 Pencils With Your Name 50¢

Fine quality pencils with soft black leads or 12 different colored leads. Print plainly the name you want gold-stamped on pencils. Send cash, check or money order. Specify whether black or colored leads and state clearly each name desired. Set of 12 only 50¢ postpaid. Fast delivery. Gift packaged. Perfect Christmas Gift. Order several sets. Personal Pencil Co., Dept. W-3, 290 Dyckman St., New York 34, N. Y.

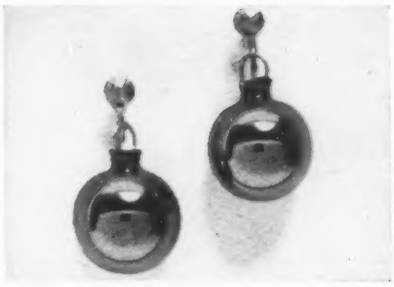


Flower Shears

These steel shears with fireman-red handles come from Japan—the home of artistic flower arranging. The unusual shaped handle and short precision ground blades with keen cutting edge were specifically designed to let you snip rose buds or thick branches. Just the thing for every gardener and flower arranger on your gift list. $3.75 postpaid. The Shadow Box, 1378 East 8th St., Brooklyn 30, N. Y.

For Him and Her

Smartest Xmas gift of the season. A matched pair of "Snap-Cut" Pruners, 8" size for HIM, 6" size for HER with copy of 28-page illustrated book "How to Prune". Special Xmas wrapping. Ideal gift for house warmings, weddings, anniversaries and guest's "thank you" token. Any gardener will be delighted. At your dealer's—or write us. $4.85 postpaid. Seymour Smith & Son, Inc., 31711 Main St., Oakville, Conn.

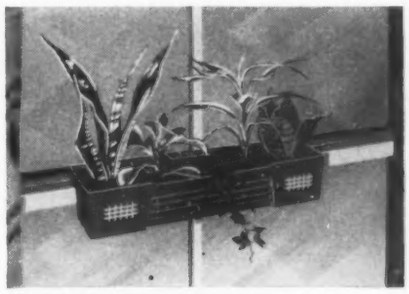


Christmas Ball Earrings

Bubbles of holiday excitement — earrings as gay and gala as New Year's Eve! Wee Christmas balls, gayer than the tree itself, to dangle 'bout your head. And to make it an extra merry holiday, earring your guests, too. Glittering bright in red, green, gold and aqua. Pair $1.00—2 pairs $1.75. Tax included. Postpaid. No COD's. World Ideas, Dept. P., 21-20 33d Ave., Long Island City 6, N. Y.

Fragrant Artware Vase-Jar

Beautiful white porcelain vase-jar, 5" high, 12" in dia., filled with perfumed rose buds in Rose or Floral Bouquet fragrance. Decorated with hand-painted roses and rose buds in red and green on two sides. Vented lid for release of amazingly long-lasting fragrance. Handsomely gift boxed. Exquisite gifts! State fragrance desired. Only $4.95 postpaid. Chardon Company, 7202 Greenwood Ave., Chicago 19, Ill.



Mid-Window Planter

A beautiful polished plastic planter designed to fit around the lock of any double-sash window. Clean modern lines—aids plant health and care. Easily attached with rust-proof fittings; will not damage sash; window can be raised or lowered. Size 15" long, 4¾" wide and 3" deep. Red, green or black with white trim. $1.49 ea. ppd. 2 for $2.75. Write for free catalog. Fischer's, 43-62 Bowne St., Flushing, N. Y.

This Is For the Birds!

Remember our feathered friends! Keep their lilting song in your garden. Here's a feeder that can be placed anywhere. 6 ft. steel post comes in 3 sections. Of brown steel with clear plastic hopper. Holds up to 2 lbs. Hood 14-¾" across. Tray 9" x ¾" deep. Ideal gift for bird lovers! $5.98 ppd. Hanging model, same size, $3.50. Satisfaction guaranteed. Write for free Gift Catalog. Downs & Co., Dept. 3945, Evanston, Ill.

Print Your Name & Address—$1

Now, print your own name and address (or any 3 lines) on envelopes, records, stationery, checks, books, greeting cards and photos. PRINTER, complete with compact "onyx black" case and automatic inker. Fits pocket or purse. Use at home or office—looks like printing. A useful gift. *Guaranteed to please or money back!* Mail $1 with name and address for each PRINTER to Sunset House, 242 Sunset Building, Hollywood 46, California.

3-D Stories for Christmas—$1

This collection of 10 exciting stories in 3rd DIMENSION makes the perfect gift. Thru the 3-D viewer the characters are so *real* you feel you can reach out and touch them! There's Cinderella, Goldilocks and many others *plus* 7 beautiful scenes and story of the First Christmas *plus* a plastic adjustable 3-D viewer—all for $1.00 postpaid! Viewscope Co. 6612-D Sunset Blvd., Hollywood 28, Calif.

shop in Flower Grower's

GENERAL ST

POWER MOWER COVER . . .

Protect your valuable power lawn mower engine or motor against harmful dirt and dust between mowings and seasons with a custom-designed plastic cover. Elastic handle opening will fit any type of power mower, reel or rotary. Metallic green vinylite with bright yellow edging; waterproof, durable, flame resistant, washable, will not crack, mildew, melt or freeze. $2.45 postpaid. House of Miller, FG-11, 203 N. Wabash Ave., Chicago 1, Ill.

FOLDING TV SEATS . . .

Need extra seats for guests viewing TV, or for buffet supper parties? These have black hardwood legs and will support over 250 pounds. Padded seat may be had in red, green or ivory plastic to match your decor. When open, seat measures 12 x 13 x 12". Folds to 2½ x 15". $3.95 each, postpaid. Treasure Mart, Suite 522, Treasure Mart Bldg., Hillside, N. J.

Imported Child's Piano

Replica of a baby grand, unusually well constructed in honey-finished solid oak. Youngsters can play simple tunes all by themselves on the numbered keys. Fine, clear, bell-like tone will help develop interest and appreciation of music. Specially priced for the holidays! With 12 keys, $3.95 postpaid. With 15 keys, $4.95 postpaid. Write for free catalog. Serv-U, Dept. FG, P. O. Box 390, Flushing, New York.

Decorative Ceramic Vases

Spell out your season's greetings with these decorative ceramic vase letters; add charm to the mantle table or wall (letters have holes for easy hanging). Use as candle holders to display holly and other Christmas decorations. Black, white, Christmas Green or Holly Red. Four NOEL vases in gift box, just $5.95 ppd. No COD's, please. Guaranteed to please. Malibu International House, Malibu 4, California.

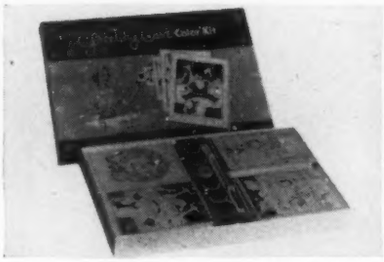
Surprise-A-Day Xmas Calendar

Christmas calendar in glittering colors from Switzerland! Ideal pre-Christmas gift to shorten the days for little ones! A thrill each day starting Dec. 1st till Christmas as they open a new window and discover a gay surprise. Four themes: Hansel & Gretel, Christmas Train, Night before Christmas and Santa Claus. 65¢ ea; 2—$1.25, ppd. 7" x 9½". State Preference. No COD's. The Work Bench, Bedford, Pa.

Display Your Hobby

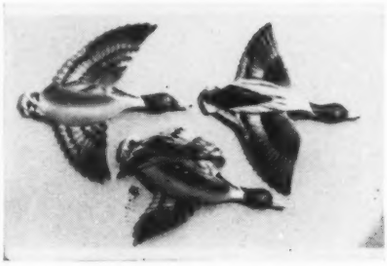
The pendant "bells" in these unique earrings are miniature flower pots. A most attractive novelty that will gain compliments for you. A gift item that will be welcome to your flower-loving friends. Price only $1.95 pair, ppd., individually packed in plastic jewel box. How many could you use for Christmas? Send us the list. Act today! Mail check or money order to Windover, Inglefield, Indiana.

STORE *with Erna W. Cass*



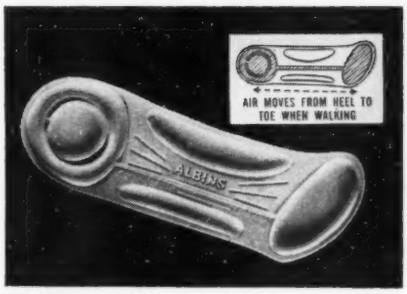
PAINT YOUR GREETING CARDS

"Painted especially for you" is the thought inspired by each of the 24 beautiful cards in this unique Christmas and New Year cards kit. An intimate way to personalize your greetings with the currently popular hobby of painting by numbers or color patterns. Kit includes 8 designs in full color—easy to duplicate, 24 cards outlined so that colors can be filled in, 6 color cakes and brush. $1.70 plus 30¢ postage. Wahl Products Inc., FG11, 600 Randall St., Eau Claire, Wis.



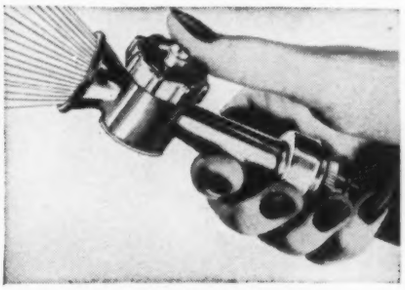
PORCELAIN FLYING DUCKS . . .

Beautifully hand decorated in authentic, true-to-life coloring. In these superb porcelains, the artist has captured all the pulsating beauty of Mallards in flight. Arranged in a group, they make a most effective wall decoration. Bring a bit of the great outdoors into your home or office with this handsome trio. Wing spread 7". Set of 3, $3.95 postpaid. Black & Co., FG-11, 125 Merrick Rd., Rockville Centre, N. Y.



Walk on Air

For quick relief from calluses, blisters, spur or bruised heels, general foot fatigue, place Albin Air Cush'n Innersoles in shoes. Air moves thru small channel, gently massaging feet. Odorless, non-absorbent, almost weightless. Order by men's or women's shoe sizes. $2.95 pr. No COD's. Money back guar. Send for free gift catalog. Albin of California, Rm. 1011, 1401-33 W. 8th St., Los Angeles 17, Calif.

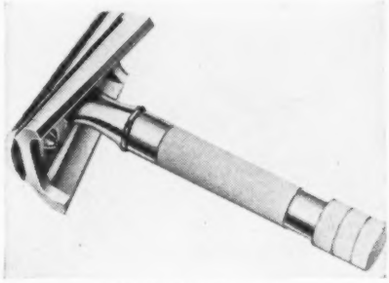


Stocking Gift for Gardener

A perfectly wonderful hose nozzle. About 1½" by 4", it is light, strong and rust-resistant and has finger-tip control. Provides the softest mist or most powerful jet of water. Handy, too, for washing cars, exterior house walls. $1.50 postpaid. No COD's, please. Money back if not delighted. Send for free gift catalog. Albin of California, Room 611, 1401-33 West 8th St., Los Angeles 17, California.

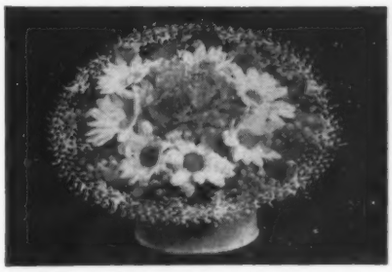
Handy Map Measure

A Pocket Map Measure that registers number of land or nautical miles you have travelled or still have to go. Wheel it across the map—it converts inches to miles . . . centimeters to kilometers. Made in Germany. Indispensable to motorists, aviators, engineers, etc. Nickel plated case has unbreakable dials on both sides. Cowhide case included. Only $1.95 ppd. Hoffritz, Dept. FGX-11, 49 East 34 St., New York 16.



Diagonal Safety Razor

Here's an imported double-edge safety razor that whisks through the toughest beard instantly! Curved, scientifically designed head shaped to fit the contour of your face. Razor has a diagonal cutting stroke that slices stubble away instead of scraping. Genuine cowhide zipper case with 4 famous HOFFRITZ stainless blades. Only $5.00 complete, ppd. Extra blades 15 for $1.00. Hoffritz, Dept. FG-11, 49 East 34 St., N. Y. 16.

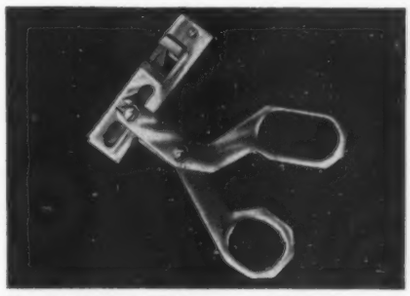


Nosegay Container

For a real old-fashioned nosegay effect, arrange your small flowers in this delightfully different metal lace container. Its dainty, delicately designed sloping brim, simulating a lace paper doily, is 8" in diameter and the water cup is 1-¾" deep. Pure white enameled. $2.00 postpaid. Write for free catalog "For Flower Arrangement Fans". Dorothy Biddle Service, FG-93, Pleasantville, N. Y.

Self Attaching Window Shelf

Fastens to window sill without screws or nails—just slip flange between window and sill and you have a sturdy shelf for plants, fan, etc. The window may be left open, closed or locked. Made of rigid steel with rolled edges of durable baked white enamel. Shelf is 23" long 6" wide. $1.35 ea. postpaid; 2 for $2.60; 4 for $5.00. Write today for free gift catalog. Fischer's, 43-62 Bowne Street, Flushing, N. Y.

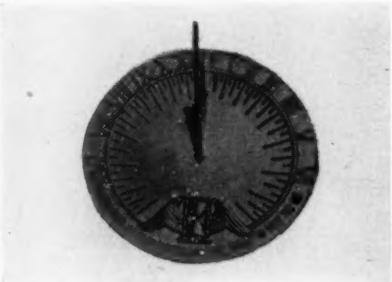


Ev-R-Fresh Flower Shears

Ingenious new design cuts stems at 45 degree angle. Recommended for longer life, keeps flowers fresh days longer. Slices quickly and cleanly thru stems of any thickness, even woody stalks. Original razor edge will cut 5,000 stems. Blue or Green Enamel, or Polished Chrome finish. $3.95 postpaid. Additional blades 65c each, 3 for $1.50, postpaid. Aimee Lee, 545 Fifth Ave., New York 17, N. Y.

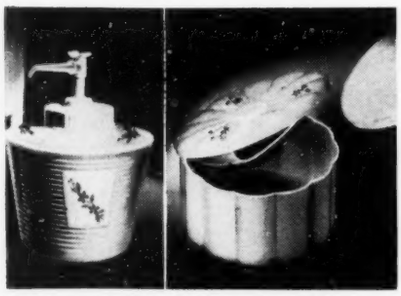
Dolls That Do Everything!

Saucy Walker (A) fully jointed with sleeping eyes, long lashes, hair can be brushed, combed, curled & washed. Walks forward-backward rolls her eyes, turns her head as she walks, cries. No winding! Beautifully dressed 16", $9.98; 22", $15.98 ppd. (B) Talking doll 24" with miracle skin, laxtex arms & legs. Sings, laughs, talks and says her prayers by just pressing button. $23.50. Sally, FG-11, Stony Point, N. Y.



Classic Sun Dial

Handsome addition to your garden, lawn or terrace. Cast iron finished in verdi-green, with polished cast brass arm. Adjustable screw in bottom is easily affixed to cement or rock base. 10½" diameter motto: "Grow old along with me, the best is yet to come". $6.50 ppd. 9½" diameter motto: "I count none but sunny hours", $5.50. Write for catalog. Bonney's, Dept. FG, 121 E. Broad St., Westfield, N. J.



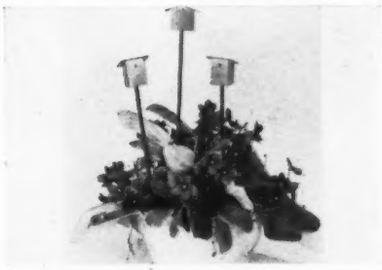
Lotion Puff 'n' Powder Set

A smartly matched gift twosome! Lotion Dispenser gives out just the right smooth-flowing amount. Puff 'N' Powder Box has unique shelf under lid, keeps puff out of powder. Pink, blue, green, yellow or white plastic. Gift-boxed set: hand-painted, $3.00; unadorned, $2.00. Each item: hand-painted $1.50; plain, $1.00. Money back if not delighted. Dean of Hollywood, Suite 111, 1350 N. Highland Ave., Hollywood 28, Calif.

shop in Flower Grower's GENERALST

BIRD HOUSE PLANT STAKES . . .

You'll like these miniature bird houses perched at the end of a 15" green "pole" to help support your house plants. And so will your friends! Hand made and enameled in orchid, blue and yellow with contrasting roof. Set of 3, $1.00 postpaid. Wm. L. Fabian, FG-11, Route 5, Box 334, Burlington, Wisconsin.



QUEEN'S ROYAL COACH . . .

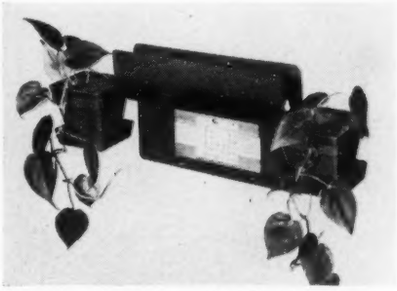
If you can wait 5 or 6 weeks for delivery you'll be thrilled at receiving a miniature of Queen Elizabeth's coronation coach. Queen in red is drawn by 8 white horses in red and gold and 4 riders in color. Foot figures 1½" high, mounted 2½". Gold coach and horses 13" long. Made in England of antimony lead. $5.95 postpaid, duty free. Send $5.24 and pay postman 71¢ on delivery. World Export Sales Co., Dept. B-28, 2702 Gustavus St., Laredo, Texas.

Wine Basket Planter

Imported from the Island of Madeira comes this attractive and unusual wine basket plant container. Its new and its different! An excellent way to show off your specimen plant of philodendron, ivy or other favorite trailing plant. Holds 3" pot. Comes in natural cane weave. A smart accessory for your home. $2.50 postpaid. Two for $4.50. Hohman's Flowers & Gifts, 277 Washington St., Abington, Mass.

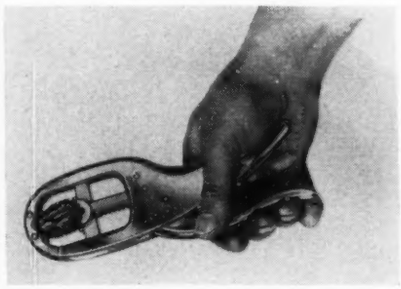
Christmas Tree Canape

Brand new, beautiful *Glidden* handmade pottery. Background finely speckled pale gray with Christmas tree hand painted in 6 colors under glaze. Just what you want for smart, modern holiday entertaining, or for an unusual gift at reasonable cost. (You'll use these all year). Set of four, 5½" plates, only $4.95 ppd. Satis. Guar. Free circular home and gift items. Elizabeth Edge Studios, Box 21-FG, Pittsford, N. Y.



Dates 'N Notes Wall Planter

Handy and Handsome! Wall planter has two Hydro-Fed Flower Pots for your Ivy or African Violets; tray for holding grocery lists recipes, string, pencils, etc. and a calendar. Made of steel with baked enamel finish in black or yellow with chartreuse flower pots, or green or red with yellow flower pots. Make ideal gifts! $3.75 postpaid. Choate's Gift Mart, FG-11, Jackson Bldg., Chattanooga, Tenn.



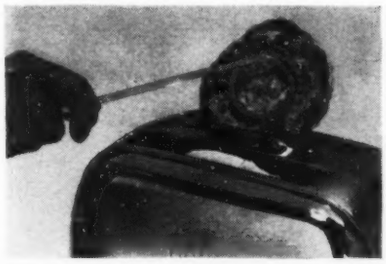
Imported Nutcracker

The newest thing in nutcrackers—a wonderful import that cracks the shell . . . then *stops before crushing the kernel.* Easy to use. No splintered shells. No scattered nutmeats. For all kinds of nuts, even hard-shelled brazils come out whole. Lasts lifetime. Bright, high polish chrome. Only $2.95 each, 2 for $5.75 ppd. Send for free Gift Catalog. Gifts Gaylore, P. O. Box B, Cheltenham, Penna.

STORE *with Erna W. Cass*

INDIAN TEPEE PLAY TENT . . .

Give your little "redmen" a play tent—one that comes equipped for both indoor and outdoor use. Complete with center pole and rubber suction cups for setting up in house, also wooden pegs for pitching in back yard. Not designed for camping. 5-sided tepee has a circumference of 15 feet and is 4 feet high. Printed in four colors with Indian symbols. Children love this clever hideout. $4.95 postpaid. Joseph J. Blake, FG-11, P. O. Box 200, Gilroy, Calif.

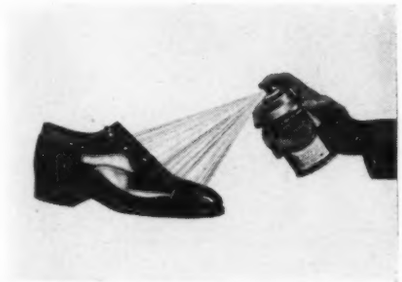


TOASTONG . . .

Just the thing to avoid burned fingers trying to get an English muffin and other small baked goods out of the toaster. Handy, too, when serving sliced tomatoes, cold cuts and cheeses, or in taking eggs out of boiling water etc. Made of satin finish stainless steel; swirl design makes tong an attractive serving tool. 7" long. $1.50 postpaid. Holm Products Co., FG-11, 172 New St., Mountain View, N. J.

For His Desk

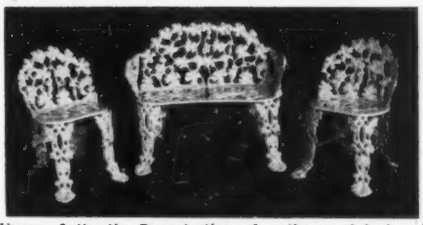
A Thermometer that tells the temperature in Centrigrade and Fahrenheit. Made in England of solid brass, a gift certain to be appreciated by the discriminating. See how logical the centrigrade thermometer is; freezing is zero, boiling is 100. Swivel mounting adjusts to the angle of vision. 3¼" high. Postpaid, $1.95. Ask for free catalog of imported gifts. Foreign Traders Inc., Santa Fe, New Mexico.



Leather Life

An amazing, safe, protective spray that revitalizes and waterproofs shoe leather. Keeps it soft, pliable and lengthens its life. Perfect for your garden shoes . . gives them real waterproof protection. Provides long-lasting natural shine, too. Practical for all the family, particularly children's shoes! Satisfaction Guaranteed. $2.00 ppd. Leather Life Co., Norristown 44, Pa.

Special Price for Christmas



Above: **Authentic Reproduction of antique original.** A gift of life-time beauty and enjoyment. Graceful, delicate grape pattern finished in long-lasting white. Settee 32" long. Chairs 16" long. Same price for Cast Iron or Cast Aluminum. Specify which.

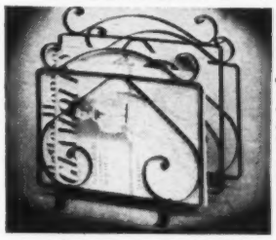
SPECIAL PRICE Settee and 2 Chairs $49.50

Right: **FLOWER STAND.** White. 11 movable arms ranging from 14" at base to 7" at top. Pots not included. **Only $24.50**

Send check or money order. Crated free. Express or freight collect—specify which. **Send for catalogue of other gift items**

J. F. DAY & CO.
Dept. F, 1905 4th Ave., S. Birmingham, 3, Alabama

2 TERRIFIC VALUES!



STUNNING MAGAZINE RACK

This beautiful Wrought Iron Rack will look lovely in any room, office or terrace. Choice of Verdi Green or Satin Black 13¼" high x 12½" wide. **ONLY $3.95** PLUS 50c POSTAGE

Handsome Imported Wall **BAROMETER**

Accurately forecasts the weather 12 to 24 hours ahead! Richly polished Mahogany with gleaming Brass; 5½" diam.; open-faced dial reveals precision mechanism. Unique gift at an unbelievably low price! Guaranteed **$5.95**

NO COD'S plus 25¢ postage

MASTERCRAFT 212FG SUMMER BOSTON 10, MASS.
FREE! GIFT 'N GADGET CATALOG

Elegance in "BLACK and WHITE"

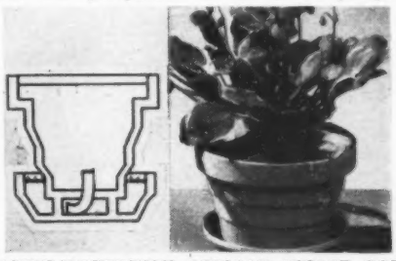
Beautiful, highly glazed white pottery flower pots in three-legged stands of black wrought iron. A lovely example of the "black and white" decorative motif so popular this season. These grand planters provide the perfect setting for your prized plants. The pots are 4", 5" and 6" in diameter. A rare gift to the indoor gardener—a welcome addition to your own plant display.

Pots and Stands - 3 for $4.95 postpaid

Miniature CACHE POTS for EARTHENWARE PLANTERS

House plants thrive best in common earthenware pots — mainly because they are porous and provide ventilation to the roots of the plant. Earthenware pots, though, are most unsightly and they leak! Set your earthenware potted plants directly into these cache pots, thus hiding the ugly pots, but retaining their benefits. Of heavy weight polished copper they are 3" in diameter by 3⅛" high.

$1.00 ea. postpaid 3 for $2.90 postpaid



"SELF-WATERING" AFRICAN VIOLET POT

It's squatty and roomy so plants can spread. A lifetime fibre-glass wick carries moisture from the base up into the soil. Eliminates danger of too little or too much water. Insures luxurious healthy plants. Of one-piece molded construction, the attached tray forms a reservoir for excess water. Prevents overflow. Heavy polished plastic—beautiful and practical. 5½" in diameter—3⅞" high. In chartreuse, coral, green, red and yellow.

69¢ ea. postpaid 2 for $1.25 postpaid

Realistic STRAW HAT PLANTER

It's made of plastic but it looks like a real straw hat! The texture of the woven straw is carefully reproduced and it has a real ribbon bow. At the top of the crown is a leak-proof planter that may be used for cut flowers or growing plants. Overall size of hat 10" high, 9" wide.

$1.00 postpaid

Please, No C.O.D.'s.

Write for Christmas Catalog.

BLACK & COMPANY, Inc.
112 Black Building, Rockville Centre, N. Y.

Everything you want to know about
HERBS
FROM THE GARDEN TO THE TABLE
By Dorothy Childs Hogner

Illustrated by Nils Hogner. A basic book that tells you how to grow herbs in your own garden and use them in your cooking, with practical information on the cottage herb industry and the history and folklore of herbs. Complete and up-to-date, it will give you all the background you need to become an expert in a fascinating hobby. *$3.95 at all bookstores.* OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 114 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N. Y.

PORTA-BURNER

BURNS HOUSEHOLD AND YARD REFUSE

After intense consumer research, we've designed a burner for maximum safety and convenience. Easily wheeled without burning or dirtying hands. Burns on driveway, lawn, anywhere, without scorching. Confines flame, ashes, sparks.

PORTA-BURNER is Bonderized sheet steel; Du Pont Hi-Heat rust resistant finish. Detachable handle removes top. Unit lifts off utility cart for emptying ashes. Ventilated for fast, complete burning. Four bushel capacity. Size 19" x 19" x 42" high. Price: $19.95 (3% sales tax on Michigan orders). Available in 2½ bu. cap. without cart, $12.95. Shipped express; returnable after 7 day inspection. Send $5 deposit with order for prompt delivery. Further information, write:

THE CAMBRIDGE MFG. CO.
228 SCRIBNER, N.W., GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

EARN BIG MONEY!

BREED RARE

TROPICAL FISH

IN YOUR HOME

NEW! HOME-BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY!

UP TO $7.50 PER HOUR SPARE TIME POSSIBLE

FOR FIRST TIME Secrets Can Be Yours!

BREED THOUSANDS IN YOUR GARAGE, LIVING ROOM, CLOSET, BASEMENT—ANYWHERE! Now, for the first time you can learn all the little known secrets of Breeding Rare Tropical Fish (jealously guarded by breeders). Earn fabulous profits in little used space in your home, and enjoy one of the most fascinating and beautifully exotic of all hobbies.

HELP US FILL HUGE DEMAND—Terrific demand everywhere. Supply America's newest, biggest-booming hobby. 20 million hobbyists already. Architects, offices, hospitals, schools, photographers—almost every kind of business demands these beautiful creatures. Get into this brand new big paying business now. Nature does the work—you make the profits.

FABULOUS PRICES FOR RARE VARIETIES. Some sell for $100 to $1000 pair, but of course this is exceptional. Most varieties sell for $5 to $20 pair. Breed them by the hundreds—even thousands.

OVER 500 EGGS LAID AT ONE TIME. Think of it. Yes, some varieties lay even more eggs at one spawning and spawn several times a year. Yet in one small living room aquarium you may keep up to 1000 babies at one time—amazing profit possibilities.

NO COMPETITION FROM LARGE COMPANIES. Nearly all present Tropical Fish Breeders are very small. They cannot meet the present terrific demand all over the U. S. They're earning big money now because they know the secrets.

NO SELLING—BUILD A MAIL ORDER BUSINESS. Our National Advertising is designed to flood you with orders with names of people who wish to purchase Tropical Fish in your area and all over the U. S.

NO EXPERIENCE—NO EXPENSIVE EQUIPMENT NEEDED BECAUSE we show you how.

WE SUPPLY EVERYTHING YOU NEED—all the revealing secrets for success—all necessary materials—everything you need to start breeding immediately.

SEA HORSE —shown giving birth to 350 young. Retail for $4 to $15 pair.

FIGHTING FISH Lays about 500 eggs at a time. Retails about $4.50 pair.

ANGEL FISH —Graceful, exotic. Lays about 250 eggs at one time. Big profit maker.

LOOK WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING!

"Business prospects tremendous" J.K., Ga., "Earned $125.00 first week" T.S., Calif., "Dealers want all I can breed" J.P., Oregon, "Big money and how" T.V., Fla., "Exactly what I've been looking for" A.B., New York, "Pays off large dividends" R.D., New York, "No limit amount to be earned" M.G., Oregon, "Fascinating business" D.F., Texas.

FREE! "How to Succeed" BOOKLET, Breeding BROCHURE REPRINTS and all DETAILS!

TROPICAL FISH BREEDERS OF AMERICA
Dept N 11 Los Angeles 15, California

Dear Sir:
Please rush all free details about this new industry opportunity.

Name _____ Age _____

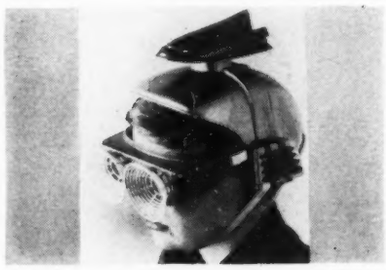
Address _____

City _____ State _____

shop in Flower Grower's GENERAL

SPACE HELMET . . .

What little "superman" wouldn't have a wonderful time pretending he's the "man from Mars" wearing a space helmet with goggles molded in the latest "space" design. Elastic chin and head straps hold helmet in place. Made to fit any age. Revolving radar antennas on the front of the goggles. $1.98 postpaid. Sta-Dri, FG-11, 147-47 6th Ave., Whitestone 57, N. Y.



MERRY HEART TRIVET . . .

A pleasant reminder for the day that "A Merry Heart Doeth Good like a Medicine" when using trivet under a hot dish at breakfast. 7" in diameter, of black aluminum. Not only makes a nice Christmas gift, but a most welcome one for any occasion throughout the year. $2.25 postpaid. Garret Thew Studios, FG-11, Westport, Conn.

AUTOGRAPH LINEN KIT . . .

For Christmas dining use this striking red tablecloth. Then have your guests sign their names directly on the cloth with a special pencil. This year's names may be embroidered in gold ready to use again next year. Set includes imported, Red vat-dyed, colorfast, pure linen cloth, woven in Belgium, with a special green and a white pencil. Size 52" x 70", $5.95, postpaid; 70" x 80", $7.95. Carol Beatty Co., FG-11, 7410 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles 46, Calif.

◀◀◀ **Buy your Christmas gifts with Confidence from the General Store Shopping Pages** ▶▶▶

PERSONAL

PLAY PAY

your favorite child's FULL NAME on each crisp new bill!

COMPLETE WITH WALLET

ONLY $2 ppd.

Money that looks so real we almost hate to part with it! One hundred crisp, crackly, true-color bills in 4 denominations (ones, fives, tens, twenties — with a different circus illustration on each)! *Where "United States" shows on real dough, we'll print the youngster's full name in bright red!*

Comes complete with leather-brown Texon Wallet for packing a pocketful! Teaches arithmetic and use of real money while small fry play store, bank, auction—or get a big bang just flashing a horse-size roll!

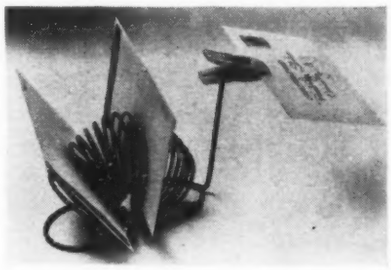
In all America, you can get Play Pay only from

MADISON HOUSE

Send your order today, to the address nearest you:

2811 Madison Bldg., 40 Fargo Street, Boston 10, Mass.
Dept. 2811, 919 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago 11, Ill.
Dept. 2811, 122 E. 7th Street, Los Angeles 14, Calif.

STORE *with Erna W. Cass*

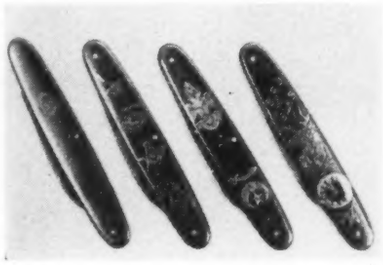


LETTERBUG . . .

Unique to say the least! And yet very practical. Letterbug holds as many as 20 letters within easy reach and in one place. Black wrought iron with "head" clip yellow, red, blue or green. A gift all letter-writing friends will be pleased to receive. Also use to hold stationery, or as a napkin holder. $2.00 postpaid. Choate's Gift Mart, FG-11, 501 Jackson Bldg., Chattanooga 2, Tenn.

HOUSE PLANT KIT . . .

A kit to meet the needs of all types of house plants. 1¼ pounds each of general potting soil, African violet soil and one pound leaf humus! Also included are a pot filling scoop, combination spade and rake, ½ dozen stakes, bottle cap sprinkler and a dozen wire tapes for tying back plants. The lower half of the kit-box is made water-tight so it becomes a tray in which to keep potted plants. Complete kit, $3.50 postpaid. Sweetham Meadows Nurseries, FG-11, Wayland, Mass.



DEAR TO HIS HEART . . .

Close to a man's heart is his lodge affiliation. He'll be proud to own an imported German pocket knife with the authentic emblem of The Masons, The Shriners, The Elks, or the Knights of Columbus embossed in raised design on the casing. 3¼" long by ¾" wide, veri-thin ⅛" thick construction. Two blades of fine stainless tool steel. Gun metal finish with insignia nickle plated. $3.75 each postpaid. Abbeon Supply Co., FG-11, 179-61 Jamaica Ave., Jamaica 32, N. Y.

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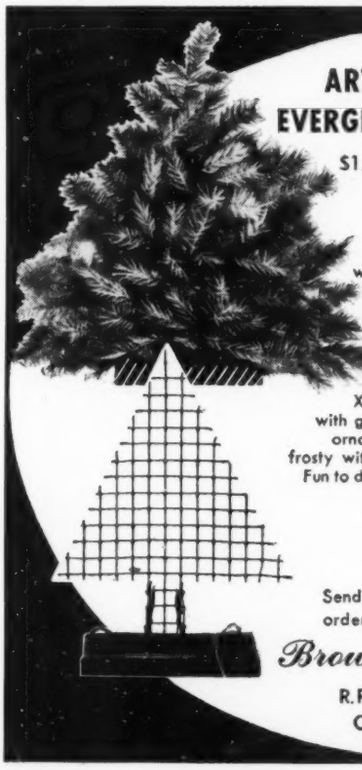


ARTISTIC EVERGREEN HOLDER

$1.25 each postpaid
2 for $1.95

Here's a wonderful way to dress up table, mantel, fireplace. Stuff holder with sprigs of evergeens 'til it forms a jolly miniature tree. Then, for the Xmas Season decorate with gay ribbons and other ornaments—even make it frosty with sprays and glitter! Fun to do, and it adds warmth and holiday spirit to your table or room. Holder 12" high.

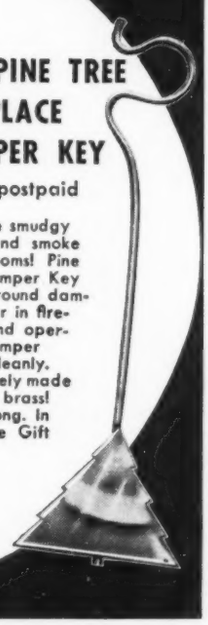
Send cash, check or money order. No C.O.D.'s please

Brown Crafters
R.R. No. 13 Box 339
Cincinnati 30, Ohio

THE PINE TREE FIREPLACE DAMPER KEY

$1.85 postpaid

No more smudgy hands and smoke filled rooms! Pine Tree Damper Key hooks around damper lever in fireplace and operates damper safely, cleanly. Attractively made of solid brass! 12½" long. In attractive Gift Box.



GIVE BIRDHOUSE KITS
as Gifts for Christmas!

"4-in-1" BIRD HOUSE KIT

- A Wren or Bluebird House In Summer
- A Shelter House or Feeding Station in Winter

The most versatile Bird House ever offered. Allows choice of tenants and year-round service as well. As illustrated it is a Wren House; for Bluebirds simply replace front wall with extra wall included. In Fall eliminate front wall and it's a comfy, Shelter House or Feeding Station. Walls slide in grooved corner posts; quickly removed for changeover or cleaning. Guar. weatherproof materials pre-cut; screw holes drilled. Ideal kit for children. May be hung or post mounted. Hdw., diag and instr. incl. Remit with order (no c.o.d.'s.)

$2.95 ea. 2 kits $5.50, prepaid
10% extra on Canadian orders

ALPINE WREN HOUSE KIT

All parts of White Pine and weatherproof plywood, accurately cut to fit, sanded and screw holes pre-drilled. Detachable base for quick, easy cleaning. Only hammer and screw driver required to assemble. Makes lovely indoor ornament, too, for sunrooms or porches. Kit includes all nails and screws, waterproof glue, diagram and complete instructions. (no c.o.d.'s.)

$2.75 ea. 2 kits $5, prepaid
10% extra on Canadian orders

YES! You may have 1 ea. of the above kits for $5.25 prepaid

12-RM. MARTIN HOUSE KIT

All parts pre-cut from white pine and Temp. Masonite. Overall size 23"x23"x24". Walls fit in grooved posts and are instantly removable for easy cleaning. Screw holes pre-drilled; only screw driver needed to assemble. Compl. instr. and diag. Child can do a professional job. All hrw. incl. Mounts on plain 4"x4" pole (not incl.). Satisf. guar. Ship. chgs. collect. (no c.o.d.'s.)

REMIT $24.50 WITH ORDER

All Kits Fully Guaranteed

Wm. L. Fabian & Associates
Rte. 5, Box 334F.G. Burlington, Wis.

Aluminum Window Tray AND 2 BRACKETS

27" Long x 6¾" wide x 1½" deep
Ideal for African Violets—Moss Green Finish
An Original Indoor Plant Aid — Tray Rests in Restraining Brackets, attached by screws to a Window Sill as Narrow as 2½ inches. No Joints—No Leaks.

$2.00 *POSTPAID NO C.O.D.*

G. S. Thompson, Newtown 2, Pa.

Revolving Spun-Aluminum
FLOWER TREES

FOR YOUR CHERISHED AFRICAN VIOLETS

Each tray rotates freely about center for even sunning of plants

Made of lustrous rustproof spun aluminum. Each tray is waterproof and holds up to ½ inch of water. Plants can be watered the ideal way—from the bottom. No individual watering! This tree holds up to 18 four-inch African Violet flower pots, yet requires only 29-inch diameter floor space.

NEW LOW PRICES

36" high: 9" from floor to lower tray; 9" between trays. Each **$19.50**
39" high: 12" from floor to lower tray; 9" between trays. Each **$20.25**
42" high: 15" from floor to lower tray; 9" between trays. Each **$21.00**
45" high: 18" from floor to lower tray; 9" between trays. Each **$21.70**
48" high: 18" from floor to lower tray; 10" between trays. Each **$22.50**

All trees shipped assembled. EXPRESS PREPAID.

Write for free circular on **WOOD Flower Trees, SPUN ALUMINUM FLOOR LAMP Flower Trees, and Spun Aluminum Saucers.**

OZARK SPUNALUM CO.
Box 59-AH, JACKSON, MISSOURI

Create Your Own Lamps With Stand-A-Lamp!

An endless variety of smart lamps, each your own creation. Simply mount your figurines, toys, planters, vases, or antiques up to 15 in. tall on a Stand-A-Lamp, adjust stem to desired height and add shade. Beautifully finished hardwood base has hidden rubber feet, polished brass adjustable stem, approved wiring. Your choice: 1. Base: 7" round, 6½" sq., or 6" x 8" rectangle. 2. Beautiful Finish: Walnut, Mahogany, Maple, Blond, or Dull-Black. We match pairs. $5.95 ea. Adjustable stem and wiring complete (as above less base). Use your own base of wood, ceramic, etc. Instructions included. $3.95. Royce of California, Suite 811, 4812 Crenshaw Blvd., Los Angeles 43, Calif. (Please add 50¢ for mailing.)

Adorable Swinging Imp Planter

Complete with LOVELY **FLOWER GARDEN**

ALL FOR ONLY 50¢

Bargain! To Get New Customers! This devilishly cute and colorfully decorated enchanting imp sits on a swing and ACTUALLY ROCKS back and forth on the rustic tree trunk. Richly hand-decorated ceramic, in the legendary colors of field and forest; twin lovebirds attractively adorn top of swing. Adds a gay note to your end table, mantle, knick-knack shelf, etc. You'll cherish it for years.

Miracle Plants Included

Produces a lovely indoor flower garden, quickly and easily. Simply add water. Presto—a gorgeous display of Asters, Petunias, Marigolds, Zinnias, etc. Satisfaction guaranteed or money back. Not more than 2 to each customer. Add 15c to each Imp Planter ordered for postage and handling. No C. O. D.'s.

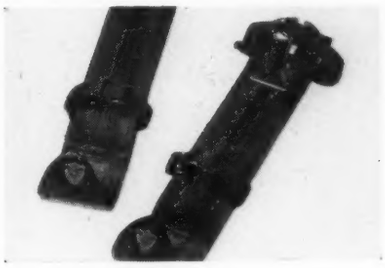
Dobbs Products Co., 900 W. Lake, Dept. 131, Chicago 7, Ill.

P. S. *ACT TODAY for prompt service on your Gift Subscriptions. Fill out the convenient order form bound in this issue and mail to FLOWER GROWER • ALBANY 1, N. Y.*

shop in Flower Grower's GENERALST

SNOW SKATES . . .

Future ski champs will get a good beginning with real snow skates. They'll go flying down slopes covered with just a little snow and have a wonderful time. Actually, they're miniature skis, 2½" across and 16" long, made of hardwood with grooved bottom. Fitted aluminum heel plates and adjustable straps fit any foot size. Natural wood finish with red trim. $1.75 postpaid. Robert W. Kellogg Co., FG-11, Springfield, Mass.

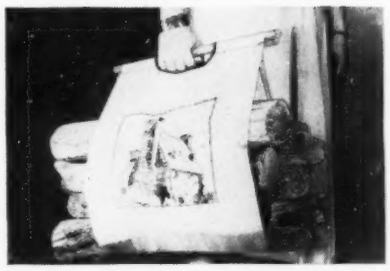


DRIPLESS WINDOW PLANTER

Have summer the whole winter through by planting your favorite house plants in these 3½" dripless clay pots, each with the new "Health-O-Plant" water reservoir. No saucers needed. Pots are natural clay inside and white outside. Attractive placed on the table or window sill, or they may be hung on the wall. The green rack is 3½" wide by 18" long. $1.59 postpaid. Fischer's, FG-11, 43-66 Bowne St., Flushing, N. Y.

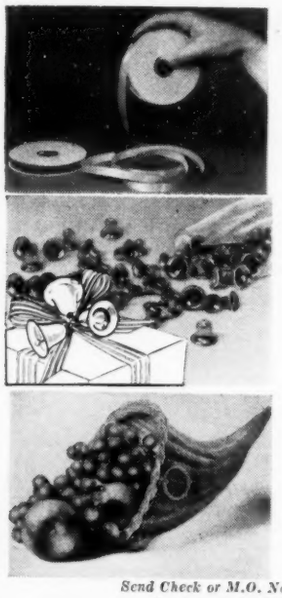
CANVAS LOG CARRIER . . .

At last, an inexpensive log carrier! Lightweight, long wearing, and can be folded up when not in use. Made of heavy canvas with rounded-end 16" long hardwood dowel stick handles. The even load distribution and ease of lifting are inherent in its simple design. Natural color with handprinted sketch in brown on both sides. $2.50 postpaid. Bright-color awning stripes, without pictures, $2.20. Harbor Industries, EG-11, Guilford, Conn.



Christmas Specials

$1 ONLY EACH *Postpaid*



100 YARDS TOP QUALITY SATIN CHRISTMAS RIBBONS!

Only 1¢ a yard! Gorgeous, vivid Christmas colors. A 50 yd. bolt of red, a 50 yd. bolt of green. Total 100 yds. (300 ft.) for only $1. Finest first quality. Generous 7/16" width. Makes your packages beautiful . . . . at the lowest possible cost. **$1 ppd.**

75 MERRY CHRISTMAS BELLS FOR UNUSUAL XMAS WRAPPING!

Let your packages sing of Christmas! Tie several of these metal bells on each package. They are assorted sizes, assorted gorgeous colors. They'll tinkle merrily. Enough for oodles of packages. Set of 75 **$1 ppd.**

IMPORTED CORNUCOPIA THE HORN OF PLENTY!

Fill it with fruit or flowers for an outstanding table decoration. Hand-woven in British Hong Kong of sweet willow reed. Small feet on bottom for support, a ring on the side to let you hang it on the wall. Size 12" long, 6½" opening. **$1 ppd.**

Send Check or M.O. No COD's. No Stamps Please
Send for BIG FREE Christmas Catalog

SPENCER GIFTS, 2611 Spencer Building, Atlantic City, N. J.

WOMEN WANTED MAKE BIG MONEY AT HOME

••• MAKE TIES AT HOME FOR US •••

It's fun! Earn $10 day easy. Fascinating Hobby. Cost pennies, sells for dollars. Positively no selling. Become member of nation-wide family of Fashion Tie Hand-crafters. No experience, no sewing machine necessary. We supply materials and sewing secrets at our risk. Help us fill huge demand. Exciting details free. Send no money, just send name and address.

FASHION TIES of California Dept. C11
2521 West Manchester Ave., Inglewood 4, Calif.

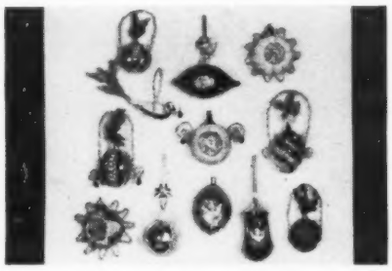
Ceramo AFRICAN VIOLET Flower Pots

10 3" pots	$1.50	Sent postpaid. Add 25c set postage west of Rockies
8 4" pots	1.60	
6 5" pots	2.00	

These famous Squatty Pots, of dark red clay, with their excellent porosity, are used and recommended by Florists. Specially treated edges help prevent sloughing off of leaves. We will replace all broken pots. Order today.

OZARK SPUNALUM CO., Box 59-AJ, Jackson, Missouri

ALSTORE *with Erna W. Cass*

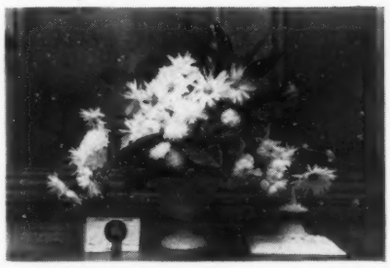


TINSEL TREE ORNAMENTS . . .

Remind you of the beautiful tree ornaments Grandma used to have. Lovely and far different from any you've seen in this modern age. Shining birds with vast spreads of plumage, ships with bright-eyed angels, vases, ornaments that fan out like northern lights. All of them deserve a special place on your Christmas tree. 12 assorted, $4.00, 24—$7.50, postpaid. J. J. Anthony, FG-11, Box 402, Milwaukee, Wis.

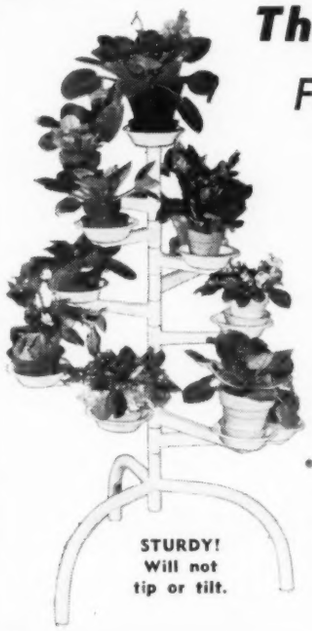
"HOWDY DOODY" WATCH . . .

Time on your children's hands is fine if it's the new Howdy Doody wrist watch. Helps teach them to tell time quickly. Clarabelle, the Princess, Mr. Bluster and Howdy appear in lifelike color. The precision American-made movement is encased in chromeplated, non-tarnishable stainless steel and the band is of neolite. Both watch and band carry unlimited guarantee. $6.95 plus 70¢ Fed. tax, postpaid. Niresk Industries, Dept. HW-13, 4757 Ravenswood Ave., Chicago 40, Ill.



SHADES OF THE 19th CENTURY

Back in granny's day, the popular Franklin heating stoves had an ornate top which was filled with water to humidify the room. Now, these hand-cast, hand-finished authentic iron reproductions are made and used as decorative flower containers. Latest is the square cash po. Cover has 27 holes to hold flowers. In black, antique white or verdi, cash po is 6x6x5½" high. $7.50 without cover, postpaid; with cover, $10. Gift Crafters, FG-11, 100 W. Main St., Richmond 7, Va.



The Ideal Christmas Gift!

For AFRICAN VIOLETS

and other plants . . . the New VIO HOLDA

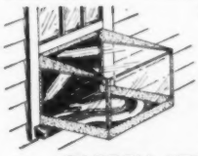
PLANT STAND

- **Holds 11 plants, 10 on Revolving Arms**
- **Promotes Thrifty Growth**

Glorify your lovely African Violets and other house plants with this wonderful new stand. Finest all-steel welded construction. 40 inches high. Finished in gleaming white or green enamel (your choice). The 10 revolving arms, extending 6 to 12 inches from sturdy center shaft, may be moved with a touch to enhance beauty of arrangement or allow even sun and air exposure. Light weight. Easy to clean. Requires so little space. Wonderful indoors or out—and a grand gift idea!

ORDER BY MAIL today for only $14.95 plus $1.00 for packing and postage. Specify color. Send check or money order. C.O.D. if desired. Satisfaction guaranteed. Money back if not delighted.

VIO HOLDA MFG. CO.
BOX 915, DEPT. 49, TOPEKA, KAN.



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Built entirely of aluminum, and marine plywood, to fit your window.
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of Cast Aluminum.
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Loveliest of this year's English imports, this 6" silver plated (Sheffield) maple leaf comes with salt, pepper and mustard or jam dish (Spoon Included)—all with silver plate covers. Silver stem swirl permits easy serving.

$5.50* *postpaid Fed. Tax Incl.*

***Dutch* TOLE TRAYS**

Nothing more practical than 10" round trays for serving at bridge or TV party. These handsome authentic tole trays from Holland have Wonderful crackle design with center floral decoration — Perfect for hutch or wall decorations. Stack easily. Wine or Green.

$1.25 *each postpaid* 4 *for* $3.95 *postpaid*

Happy Harbingers

This trio of little angels is meant to herald good fortune to the owner. Delicately made of fine porcelain with an opalescent finish, they are hand-painted and their instruments — harp, horn and bugle—are gleaming gold. About 3½" high.

Set of 3—$2.75 *postpaid*

Send for Free Christmas Gift Catalog. Dept. FG-11

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Here's How
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***Monroe* FOLDING BANQUET TABLES**

If you are on the Kitchen Committee of some Church, Lodge, Club, School, etc., in your town you will be interested in this modern Folding Banquet Table. Write for Catalog and special discounts to institutions and organizations.

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Complete knockdown kit for beautiful hexagonal mill at right, approx. 40" high, wings operate on roller bearings, only $14.75. Detailed plan only 75¢

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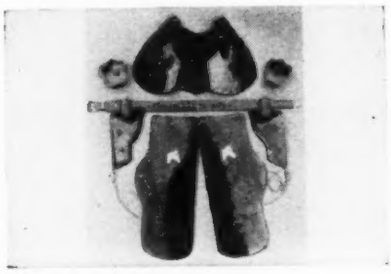
LEATHER COWBOY SUIT . . .

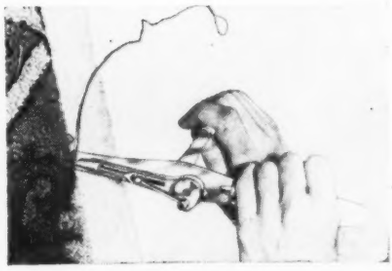


Every "Billy-the-Kid" will let go a Yippee when he sees this colorful, authentic cowboy suit of tough genuine Hereford steerhide, tanned with the hair on. Felt-lined for comfort, it is studded and jeweled in true western style. Double holster, vest, cuffs, and chaps. Brown and white. Sizes: small waist under 25"; medium waist 25" to 30"; large, waist over 30". $25.00 postpaid. Brandicalf, FG-11, 157 Federal St., Boston, Mass.

BARNYARD SALT & PEPPERS

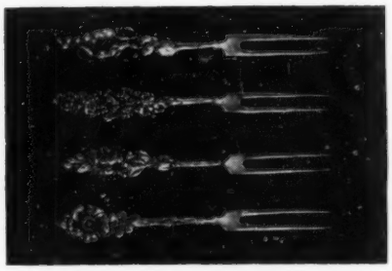
From Italy come these original and colorful salt and pepper sets to lend a little gayety to your table. Hand painted under high glaze, the ducks are yellow and green while the pigs red and yellow. A "must" for the collector and certainly a pleasing gift for anyone. Either pair $1.50 postpaid, 2 pair $2.85; 4 pair $5.55. Here's How, FG-11, 590 Third Ave., New York 16, N. Y.

MAGI-CARPET NEEDLE . . .



Happy news for women, and rugged "he" men, too, who are enthusiastic rug hookers. With this new needle, the rug making art is no longer slow and tedious. Needle operates equally well backwards or forwards. A simple adjustment controls the evenness and depth of rug pile; uniformity of loops conserves yarn. $5.95 postpaid, complete with instructions. Albin of California, FG11, 1401 West 8th St., Los Angeles 17, Calif.

LEMON FORKS . . .



A rich and expensive looking gift! Four sterling silver forks with goldplated tines, each with a different floral pattern. Hand polished and individually molded, they are 4½" long. $6.00 for the set, postpaid. Matching demi-tasse spoons $8.00 for set of 4. Jamaica Silversmiths, FG-11, 79-32 164 St., Jamaica, 2, N. Y.

3-D PLASTIC PLAQUES . . .

Add holiday cheer to your house with colorful wall or window plaques that illuminate without electricity. New, special process captures light from inside of room and beautifully illuminates plaques. Heavily embossed, brightly colored plastic is non-inflammable. Will last for years. Diamond shaped, 21½". Both for $2.25 postpaid. House of Schiller, FG-11, Dept. 32-A, 180 N. Wacker, Chicago 6, Ill.

BIRD BATH INSERT

Glazed, 6" yellow duck firmly mounted in a cement weather-worn stone. Non-tipping. Only $2.95 prepaid east of Rockies. "Free Folder" illustrates many new, low-priced gift items. Nationally Advertised Products Since 1930.

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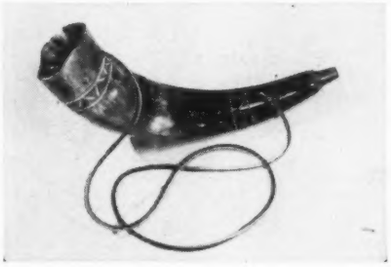
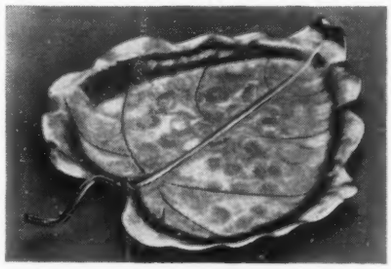
try NO-TO-BAC Lozenges. See how the aromatic flavor of NO-TO-BAC helps you give up the craving for tobacco. Rush $1 to NO-TO-BAC for 7 days' supply. (For heavy smokers — 16 days' supply — $2.) Money refunded if not satisfied. Write: NO-TO-BAC, Dept. GR, Stamford, Conn.

STORE *with Erna W. Cass*



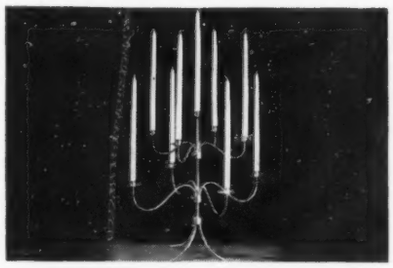
A HUNTING HE WILL GO . . .

Patterned after those used by the Wahuma tribes in their search for wild game in Africa, your young tribesman will surely blow his horn. Handcrafted of genuine oxen horn, it is imported from "big game" lands. Rubbed and buffed with care to bring out its natural beauty. About 12" long with a 3" girth at the end. Blows a quiet hunting call. Leather thong-strap fits over the shoulder. $2.00 postpaid. Madison House, FG-11, 28 Madison Bldg., 40 Fargo St., Boston 10, Mass.



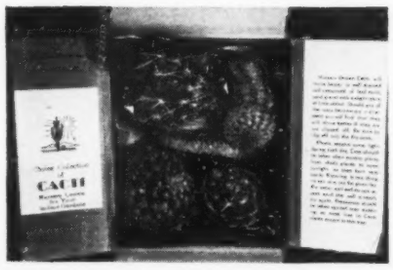
GRAPE LEAF CANDY DISH . . .

Exclusive, hand-crafted design in lustrous Foam Kissed Copper—a gleaming copper sparkling through a hand-rubbed silvery background—a two-toned finish of matchless beauty. Clear lacquer coating insures permanent finish that never requires polishing. Not obtainable elsewhere—hand-wrought of purest metals available. 10½". $7.50 postpaid. Monhegan Island Crafts, Dept. E-53-3, 586 Congress St., Portland, Maine.



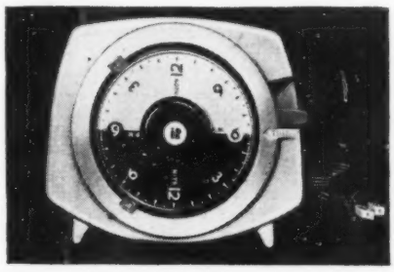
CANDELABRA FROM SWEDEN . .

During the coming festive days let your house shine brightly with candle light. Nine pure white hand-dipped 10" candles are set in a gleaming polished brass candelabra. Designed and beautifully executed by master craftsmen in Sweden. A joy to own! When not in use it is easily disassembled for storage. $12.00 postpaid, including candles. Extra Swedish candles 10 for $1.00. The Rich Ware Co., FG-10, 220 Fifth Ave., New York 1.



CACTUS COLLECTION . . .

Cactus blossoms are noted for their delicate beauty and bright colors, and to see them in the desert is a rare sight. From this collection of five cactus plants you should get some orchid, pink, white and yellow blossoms by spring by following growing instructions. $1.50 for the collection, postpaid. Kendrick Kerns, FG-11, 120 Mesilla St., N. E., Albuquerque 6, New Mex.



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Just set it and forget it! Makes almost any electrical appliance fully automatic. Needs no resetting. 5" x 4" x 2½" with 6 ft. cord. AC only. Use it to start radio, coffeemaker, washing machine, T.V. set, roaster, outdoor or indoor lights, garden hot-beds, defrost refrigerator, etc. $10.95 postpaid. J. K. Bougher, FG-10 Burnside Avenue, R.D. 2, Norristown, Pa.

Personalized
"MIDNIGHT COACH" SIGN

Artistically hand-lettered with any family name and house number. Adds rustic charm and friendly welcome to your home. Durably made to give years of service. Easy to install. Made of heavy, weatherproof methyl methacrylate plastic with black hammered crinkle finish. Won't rust. Size over 15" long, 5¾" high. **SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR MONEY BACK.** Add 15c for postage and handling. No C.O.D.'s please.

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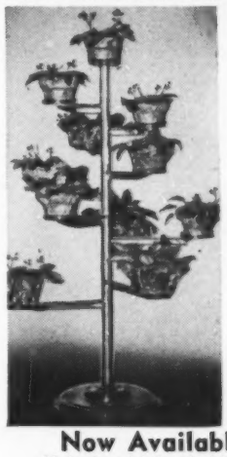
For House—Lawn —Mail Box—any Post or Tree

All-Aluminum **SWING-AWAY PLANT STAND**



For AFRICAN VIOLETS OR OTHER PLANTS

Made entirely of rust-proof aluminum. Weight of 48" model only about seven pounds making it easy to handle. Arms can be swung away individually to any angle for best arrangements in appearance or sunning.

Base and arm trays are of shining spun aluminum—easily kept like new with a little Glass-Wax or similar polish-wax combination.

Lowest arm is 15 inches above floor.

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FOR THE NEWER THINGS visit Granger Gardens, Inc. We ship to the wholesale trade only. Contact your dealer for our new varieties. Retail sales at greenhouse only. Open every day 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. One mile east of school at Granger, Ohio, P.O. Wadsworth 1, Ohio.

AFRICAN VIOLETS. Complete growing instructions in one Method. Seed, Light, Temperature, Watering, Insecticides, Soil, Feeding—54¢. HARRIETT REED CLEMO, 419 College Avenue, Oskaloosa, Iowa.

AFRICAN VIOLETS: Husky carefully grown plants, rooted cuttings and leaves of Pink Wonder, Ruffled Treasure, Geneva Beauty, Pink Attraction, Frosty, Brenda Girl, Pompadour, Corsage and many others, Selenate treated, at reasonable prices. Stamp for list. BALLERINA GARDENS, 4 Greer St., Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

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VARIETY — SERVICE — QUALITY and **KNOCKOUT PRICES** to suit you. Stamped addressed envelope for winter time circular. Retail and wholesale. THE SELECT VIOLET HOUSE, 2023 Belmont Avenue, Route 90 North, Box 1444, Youngstown, Ohio.

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AFRICAN VIOLET SEEDS—Mixture of many varieties. Approximately 300 seeds with planting instructions $1.00. JAMES F. FAILEY—605 W. 77th St. N. Drive, Indianapolis, Ind.

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SMITH'S HANDY HARDWOOD PLANT LABELS for all house plants. 10¢ per dozen in five dozen or more. Postpaid. Write for wholesale prices. SMITH POTTING SOIL CO., 2513 E. 19th, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

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AFRICAN VIOLETS THRIVE and bloom when treated with VimIX. 10,000 units of PENICILLIN in each ounce. When used as directed it is quickly assimilated by the plant's circulatory system, producing healthy, vigorous plants, with an abundance of flowers. Send $1.00 for 5 oz. box to VIMIX, Lewes, Delaware.

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100 9 CTM. AND UP DARWIN TULIPS, mixed $3.50 postpaid. 100 10 Ctm. and up Narcissus bulbs, mixed $3.50 postpaid. Satisfaction guaranteed. H. J. WESTERHOVEN & SON, Route 1, Box 393, Benton Harbor, Michigan.

HOLLAND IMPORTED: Tulips, Hyacinths, Narcissus, peonies, crocus and miscellaneous bulbs. Special—25 Tulips 5" circ. every bulb a different variety $2.25 postpaid. Ask for price list today. NEW ENGLAND BULB CO., Box 743, New London, Conn.

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WOMEN! Make Big Money at home. Sew ties for us. It's fun. Earn $10 day easy. No selling, no experience, no machine necessary. We supply everything. Help us fill huge demand. Exciting details free. FASHION TIES, 2521-C Manchester, Inglewood 4, Calif.

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COLORFUL LEATHER may be cut into flowers, leaves, bows & rosettes. Use old belts, purses, or send 50¢ for each Leather-pak (wide assortment of colors in each pak) postpaid from DOROTHY BIDDLE SERVICE, Dept. FG-16, Pleasantville, N. Y.

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WHO SAYS YOU CAN'T GROW ORCHIDS? $1.00 buys illustrated folder featuring "Black Orchid" on cover; 22 articles on all phases Orchid care. Sowing seed to making corsages; dividing, repotting plants to propagating back bulbs. Easy to understand. No technical double-talk. Your Orchid Folder expands to make room for more articles and listings sent periodically. DANIEL RYERSON—FLORIDA GROWN ORCHIDS, Box 805, Homestead, Fla.

ORCHIDS, Cattleya species in bud and sheath $5.00, Cattleya hybrids $6.50, Calanthe Orchid $2.00. Glamourous Gloriosa tubers four for $2.00. We pay delivery charges. Saves you at least $2.50 per plant. CHARMAINE GARDENS, 301 Allamanda, Lakeland, Florida.

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Orchid Plants

SEEDLINGS AND BLOOMING SIZE PLANTS. Descriptive list and prices on plants, supplies and books 10¢. FINCK FLORAL CO., R #12, Box 287, Kirkwood 22, Missouri.

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STEELE'S JUMBO MIXED the largest flowering Pansies, great color range: also Steele's Butterfly Hybrids, in unbelievably ruffled, fluted flowers, very good for cutting. All plants blooming size. Postpaid 50 plants $3.00; 100 plants $5.75. PLAIN CITY GREENHOUSES, Plain City, Ohio.

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ROSE BUSHES—Best varieties. Guaranteed quality. From grower to you. Write for prices. McCLUNG BROS. ROSE NURSERY, Route 5, Box 275-H, Tyler, Texas.

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VIOLETS 6 Elk Fragrant Purple, 2 Lellias—light blue, 1 Deparme—double blue. $3.00 postpaid. HAPPY VALLEY VIOLET FARM, 4150 Old San Jose Rd., Rt. 2F, Santa Cruz, Calif.

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NATIVE WILDFLOWERS: Rhododendrons, azaleas, evergreens, shrubs, trees, perennials, orchids, ferns, vines. Free catalog. THREE LAURELS, Marshall, N. C.

FLOWER GROWER'S

Planting Plans

BEN ARTHUR DAVIS SHOWS HOW TO LANDSCAPE WITH CAMELLIAS WHERE THEY ARE HARDY

Although camellias—with their handsome glossy green leaves and showy flowers of white, pink or red—are usually grown as specimen plants, there is no reason why they cannot be used for practically every landscape purpose for which other broadleaved evergreens are used.

In the early years of camellia culture in this country, the plants were rare and expensive, so that the average home owner was unable to make wide use of them. But now that they are readily available at reasonable prices, more of them should be used throughout our southern and Pacific coast camellia belt in home planting.

First, though, a brief look at the two main species. Camellia sasanqua, a shrubby species, is much hardier than C. japonica, an upright form which grows up to 40 feet, and may be planted much farther north. Camellia sasanqua flowers early, some varieties opening in October and many finishing their bloom before severe cold arrives. Although there are some fully double forms, most sasanquas are single or semidouble. Individual flowers are not nearly so large or showy as those of the japonicas, but the mass of blooms more than makes up for the difference. Moreover, many new and interesting colors and forms are now available.

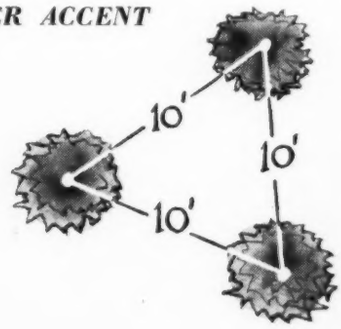
How can camellias be used in the home grounds? First, they make excellent hedges, both formal and informal, for they will stand considerable pruning. As an informal hedge, few plants surpass them. Camellia sasanqua makes equally superb background material due to its spreading, informal habit of growth. The spreading types of C. japonica, such as Aunt Jetty, Alba Plena, C. M. Hovey and Lady Claire, are also fine for this use.

Camellias are especially adapted, too, for use as accents, shrub borders, foundation plants and landscape groups. For medium-size properties, groups of three plants and for larger areas groups of five plants make strikingly beautiful accents for lot corners and other interest points. In foundation planting, narrow japonica forms such as Cheerful and Herme are perfect for marking entrances, house corners and other foundation accent points. Under windows, spreading Sasanqua rosea is ideal.

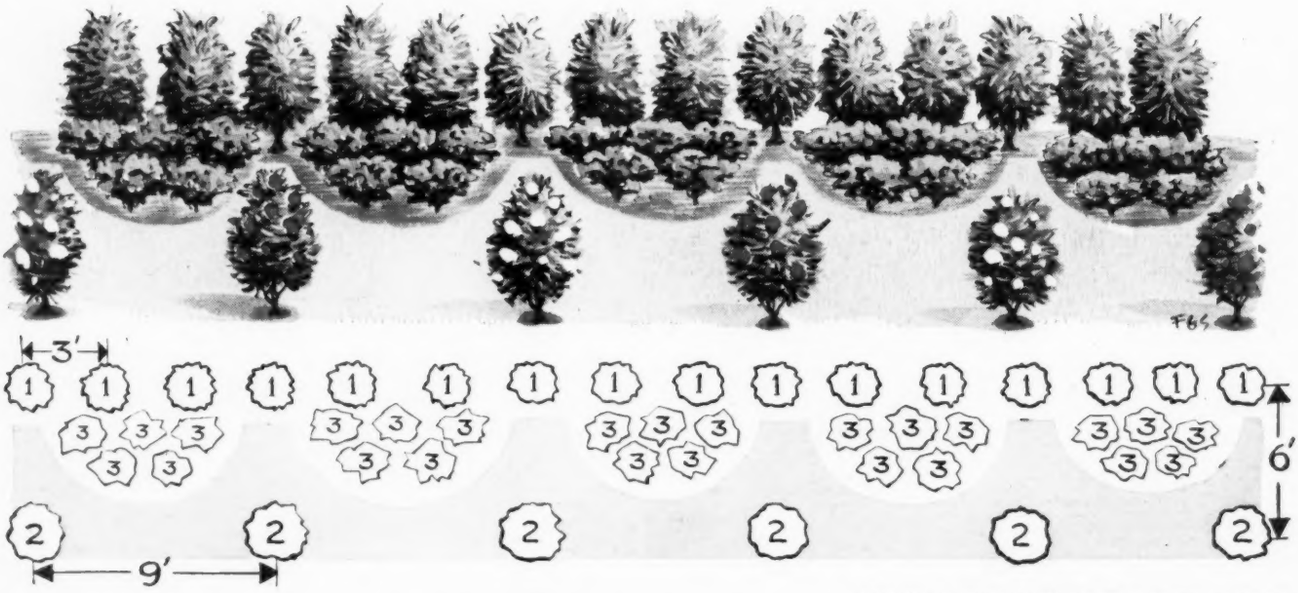
Camellias are ideal companions for azaleas—in borders, groupings and foundation plantings.

Soil for camellias should be well on the acid side. And a shady or semi-shady location is better than full sun.▶

CORNER ACCENT



CAMELLIAS STARRED IN A BORDER



DRAWINGS BY FRANK SCHWARZ FROM SKETCHES BY AUTHOR

1. CAMELLIA SASANQUA. Background of sasanquas spaced about 3 feet apart.

2. CAMELLIA JAPONICA. Row of japonicas spaced 9 feet apart, 6 feet from sasanquas.

3. KURUME AZALEAS. Azalea beds with the plants spaced about 20 inches apart.

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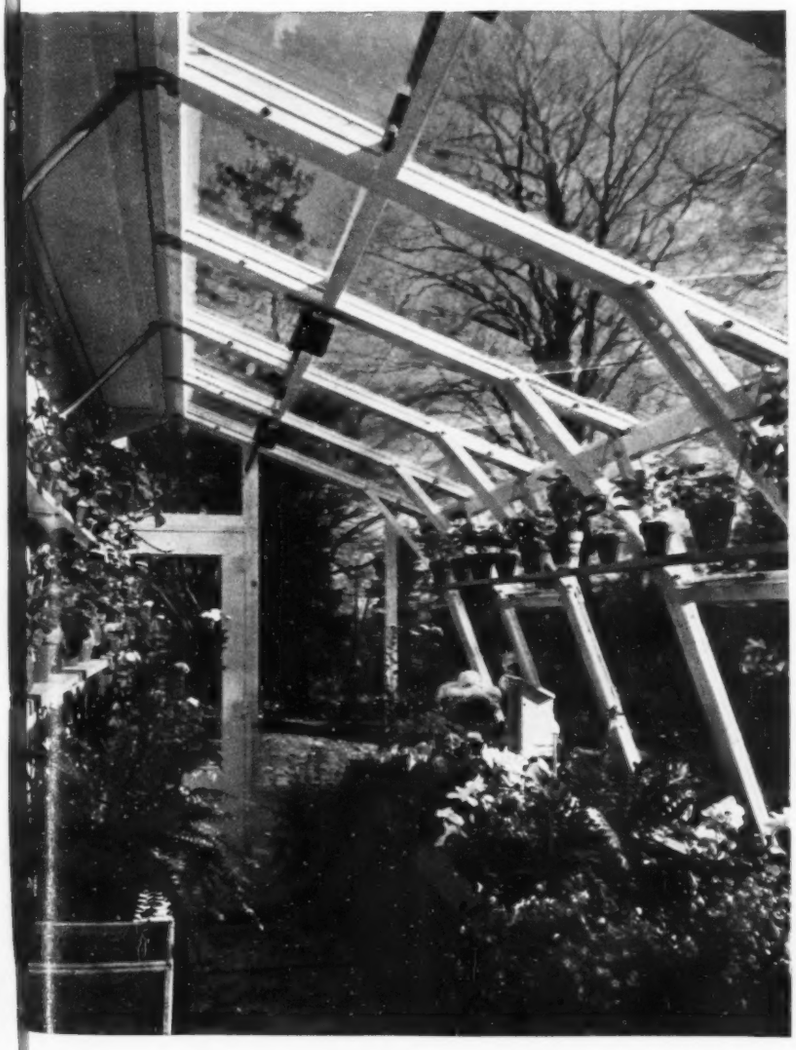

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